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BRIEFS

FRENCH ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--St Johns, Antigua, Nov 4, CANA--The French ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda today presented her credentials to Governor General Sir Wilfred Jacobs at the start of an official visit here. The ambassador also held talks with Prime Minister Vere Bird on a wide range of subjects. According to a spokeswoman in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the talks covered areas of co-operation between France and Antigua, which became independent a year ago. The ambassador is also scheduled to meet with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Lester Bird. [Text] [FL050004 Bridgetown CANA in English 2247 GMT 4 Nov 82]

DELEGATION TO JAMAICA--St Johns, Antigua, Nov 12, CANA--Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Vere Bird leaves here today for Jamaica to attend the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) heads of government summit, opening on November 16. Mr Bird will be accompanied by his education minister, Reuben Harris, and his personal aid Major Denis Cardiner. Deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Lester Bird, who is now in Saint Lucia attending the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) heads of government summit, will join the delegation in Jamaica. Prime Minister Bird is expected to have preparatory consultations with Jamaica's prime minister, Edward Seaga, before the summit. [Text] [FL121634 Bridgetown CANA in English 1523 GMT 12 Nov 82]

CSO: 3298/1140

BRIEFS

NEW MP--The new member of Parliament for Grant's town, Mr Bradley Roberts was sworn in today. In welcoming Mr Roberts as the 43d member of the House of Assembly, the speaker, Sir Clifford Darling, said the predecessor, the late Shadrach Morris, had a very good record and Sir Clifford said he hoped that Mr Roberts would follow in those footsteps. [FL031930 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Nov 82 FL]

NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER--Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash today accepted letters of credentials from the first high commissioner of Nigeria to the Bahamas, Mr Gilbert C.B. Okany. [Excerpt] [FL031500 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 Oct 82 p 1 FL]

PRIME MINISTER'S ASSISTANT--Prime Minister Lynden Pindling has announced the appointment of criminologist Elliston Rahming as his special administrative assistant effective 1 November 1982. Pindling said that Rahming will be functioning in and from the prime minister's office in order to assist in keeping an election pledge to allocate more time to listen and dialog with the people. [FL042215 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 30 Oct 82 p 1 FL]

CSO: 3298/1135

BRIEFS

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR--Bridgetown, Barbados, 9 Nov, CANA--The Austrian ambassador-designate to Barbados, Dr Alfred Missiong, will present his credentials to Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward tomorrow, a statement from the Government Information Service said today. He is also expected to call on the acting minister of foreign affairs, Dr Don Blackman, and meet senior officials of that ministry. On Thursday, Dr Missiong will hold discussions with senior officers of the Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Ministry of Trade. The ambassador-designate, who is resident in Venezuela, arrived in the island over the weekend for an official visit accompanied by his wife. He replaces Dr Richard Wotova, who ended his tour of duty in February this year. [Excerpt] [FL100215 Bridgetown CANA in English 2337 GMT 9 Nov 82]

NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER--Mr Emmanuel Olufemi Fowora, high commissioner-designate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Barbados, who yesterday presented his credentials to governor general, Sir Deighton Ward, said his country was encouraged by the growth in the bilateral cooperation between the two countries. [Excerpt] [FL031500 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 27 Oct 82 p 1]

VENEZUELAN, COLOMBIAN TRADE--Dr Courtney Blackman, governor of the Central Bank of Barbados, leaves tomorrow at the head of a Barbadian delegation on a 1-week visit to Venezuela and Colombia in search of new business in off-shore banking, captive insurance, trade and investment. Blackman will address the Banking Association of Venezuela in Caracas, the Colombian Chamber of Commerce in Bogota and the 20th convention of banking and financial institutions in Cartagena, Colombia. Other members of the delegation will hold discussions with interested parties in other areas of international business, ship registration, trade and investment opportunities in Barbados. [FL291734 Bridgetown THE ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 23 Oct 82]

CSO: 3298/1136

PINOCHET RECALLS TAKEOVER, VIEWS WORLD SITUATION

Madrid DEFENSE in Spanish Aug-Sep 82 pp 92-97

[Interview with President Augusto Pinochet Ugarte by special correspondent Javier de Mazarrasa, in Santiago, March 1982]

[Text] On 11 September 1973, the Chilean Armed Forces, headed by Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, openly acted to rectify the chaotic situation in the country, with General Pinochet himself taking office as president. On 9 March 1981, Chile approved a new political constitution and in accordance with that constitution, General Pinochet began his 7-year presidential term.

Coinciding precisely with my stay in the capital was the commemoration of the first anniversary of the new constitution and the first year of the constitutional term of President Pinochet, a celebration that I thought was a fitting time to ask General Pinochet for his own opinion on this and other Chilean, American and world events.

Thanks to the efficiency of the Office of Secretary General of Government, I was received by General Pinochet on a March morning just before an important working meeting with the country's main industrial leaders and a farmers commission. In just a little over the time it would take to have coffee, we exchanged a few words, I answered a few questions from the president and presented those I wanted him to answer in the form of a list. The questionnaire was returned to me a few weeks later and the only question not answered was one of a personal nature.

The following are the opinions of the president of Chile, Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte.

[Question] Mr President, a few days ago, the anniversary of the promulgation of the Political Constitution was celebrated, along with the first year of your presidential term. Very soon, you will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the 11 September movement. Could you sum up what these dates mean to the history of Chile?

[Answer] The dates you mention are of great significance to the country. The anniversary of the first year of our constitution is the anniversary of a phase which Chile embarked upon on its road toward a new institutionality. Chile is now going through a period of transition, whose main characteristic is the consolidation of the modernization which this government has begun.

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The importance of the new constitution lies in the fact that it effectively safeguards those rights which the previous constitution could not protect, especially during the period of the Popular Unity, when constitutional law was powerless to deal with the abuses and discrimination of those governing the country. That government caused a breakdown in moral values, the appearance of terrorist elements, the usurpation of private property, in short, an attempt to institute a totalitarian regime leading the country to imminent civil war. The constitution in force at that time was unable to check that institutional crisis. The democratic system existing in the country for so many years was inoperative in the face of the attack by extreme rightist groups, backed by Soviet Marxism. This made it necessary to achieve profound political and institutional changes in order to guide the country down the path of peace and order.

Whence the far-reaching importance of the anniversary of the new political constitution. It marks the beginning of a new institutional phase that will climate with the establishment of a modern democratic regime that will truly safeguard freedom and the other basic human rights.

With respect to 11 September, I would tell you that for me, it will be a time to reflect upon the great responsibility I have held in leading the country since 1973. But perhaps even more important is emphasizing the broad majority support which the citizens have given the government throughout these years. For me, maintaining the same support after 8 years of government is cause for great satisfaction.

Time is a very important factor in the full consolidation of the innovations made in the institutional field. The new labor, social security, economic, administrative and other legislation constitutes a great transformation, not only in the text of the law, but mainly, in the people's way of thinking. The law can be changed in a relatively short period of time, but adapting the people to the new legislation takes longer. That is why every anniversary of the government means greater consolidation of this institutionality that is shaping up in the country, one that will finally make it possible to give Chile an authentic, solid democracy.

[Question] General, I should also like to know what these events have meant internationally speaking?

[Answer] The impressive campaign which Soviet Marxism and its allies have unleashed against Chile since 11 September 1973 is well-known. The Soviet aggression which we are witnessing in Central America and other areas of the world has caused international public opinion to understand the truth of our denunciation of the penetration of the USSR in Chile, fortunately defeated in 1973, and of the campaign waged to discredit our country in order to cover up the defeat. This has resulted in increasing international understanding of the righteousness of our cause, and the promulgation in 1980 of the new constitution of the republic, followed by the citizens' majority approval, has undoubtedly contributed to a better comprehension of our situation.

[Question] In your opinion, what are the greatest problems and dangers facing Chile, both at home and abroad?

[Answer] The greatest problem which the country has recently experienced stems from the world economic recession. Until the beginning of 1981, the country enjoyed sustained, high economic development, which has temporarily been affected by that recession. The new economic policy chosen by the Reagan Administration, which suddenly increased interest rates, affected the Chilean economy, causing notorious imbalances. In addition to this, we have seen a drop in prices of export products. All of this has created a difficult situation for many national enterprises and increased unemployment.

However, the government does have the means to face the unemployment problem. Thanks to the fact that it has developed a policy of austerity, with great reductions in public spending, it can help those most in need for as long as the recession lasts.

With respect to domestic dangers, there is one that is constant and always latent: communism and terrorism. This government has constantly expressed its total rejection of terrorism because it violates basic individual rights and legally established companies. As a political weapon, terrorism is inherently contrary to the principles and values of democracy.

[Question] And what about the Latin American continent?

[Answer] We have recently witnessed undeniable Soviet intervention in Central America. I am aware of what this means for hemispheric security and I believe it constitutes one of the most serious dangers now facing Latin America. In recent months, a new problem has emerged: the conflict in the South Atlantic. It is an unfortunate conflict, but one whose tragic outcome will strengthen the position of those fighting for a peaceful solution to conflicts.

[Question] Finally, extrapolating the question, which dangers also affect the Western world, in your opinion, and how could they be corrected or lessened?

[Answer] The Western world is characterized by its rapid innovations in all spheres, due to the dizzying rate of scientific and technological development, mainly in industrialized countries which, in achieving high standards of living, have left less developed countries far behind. This gap in levels of growth and living conditions has been a fertile ground for the dissemination of the Marxist ideology, especially by the USSR, in underdeveloped countries. In order to achieve its imperialist objectives, the USSR resorts to means such as subversion and terrorism, all of which is consistent with its geopolitical aim of world domination.

[Question] Since we are speaking of international politics, one of the problems now facing Chile is that of the dispute with Argentina over the Beagle Channel. I would like to know the truth about the matter, as well as the fictitious, what has been artificially created.

[Answer] On this subject, there must first be a rectification, since the communications media often make a mistake. The dispute over the southern zone has been submitted for mediation by Pope John Paul II. The problem of the Beagle Channel was already resolved by the ruling of the British courts in May 1977, a valid, enforceable international instrument. The dispute was submitted to the mediator who, after lengthy, thorough studies of the positions of both sides, presented his proposal on 12 December 1980, which qualified as a just, fair, honorable and final solution of the dispute and which Chile has accepted.

[Question] What is the solution Chile proposes?

[Answer] Chile's unchanging position on international controversies is based on the peaceful solution of such disputes. The solution to this conflict was proposed by Pope John Paul II and, as I previously stated, Chile accepted it, despite the sacrifices it entailed. We need only for Argentina to give its acceptance in order to implement it or draft the proper treaties covering the entire proposal.

[Question] Mr President, is Beagle worth a war?

[Answer] Chile has invariably resorted to peaceful means of solving controversies provided by international law. In the dispute with the Republic of Argentina, that has always been our line of conduct. However, let them not interpret our support for law as a demonstration of weakness. We Chileans know very well what our rights are on the matter and the government knows its obligation with respect to them.

[Question] Although Chile is affected less, do you believe the establishment of a South Atlantic Treaty Organization would be feasible and necessary?

[Answer] It is difficult to decide.

[Question] Mr President, you are the commander in chief of the Chilean Armed Forces. What is the current situation of those Armed Forces?

[Answer] The Armed Forces are in an excellent position to fulfill the obligations imposed by our national defense. Their size is in keeping with the country's human and materials resources. Unlike the procedure adopted by other countries with a similar level of development, the government of Chile has not spent disproportionate sums on the purchase of weapons. To date, the government has been able to maintain a proper balance between its socioeconomic development programs and national defense spending. It is our aim to continue our development action, especially on behalf of the lower-income groups, without thereby neglecting the modernization of the Armed Forces which the circumstances require in order to guarantee the defense of our national sovereignty.

[Question] Due to circumstances with which we are all familiar, Chile has developed a defense industry in order to maintain its own equipment, initially, but a defense industry gradually developing its own means. Are these steps aimed at creating an industrial defense infrastructure permitting self-sufficiency and even exports?

[Answer] As you say, the program was begun in order to maintain our existing military equipment. Later, we progressed to self-sufficiency in some basic areas of military equipment. The basic maintenance industry has been perfected until it has achieved suitable levels in the repair of materiel and equipment, even designing and making some totally national elements. In any case, the purpose of the process is to reduce our foreign dependency, especially considering our negative experience with some producers whose commitments were thwarted by political causes.

[Question] What could you tell me about relations between Chile and Spain?

[Answer] Relations between the two countries continue within a climate of normality, based on our Hispanic origins, our language and common cultures and the special meaning which the mother country has for us. Our good relations are also reflected in our growing commercial ties. It would be advantageous to have even closer relations between Spain and our continent, with continuing ties of a political, social, economic and cultural nature, especially now that the Latin world is preparing to celebrate the fifth centennial of the discovery of America in a few years.

[Question] On these two subjects of Spain and Chile's national defense, there is cooperation between the two countries which in the military aeronautical aspect has been materialized in the Halcon T-36 plane. Would it be feasible to extend that cooperation to the naval and infantry fields?

[Answer] I believe so. In the naval area, there are good contacts between the respective ship-building industries, both civilian and military. I would remind you that at the Asmar plant in Talcahuano, there is a joint project between Asmar and the Bazan Shipyards of Spain for construction of a 10,000-ton floating dike. In addition, there is mutual interest in expanding that cooperation and complementariness.

[Question] In conclusion, General, are you considering the possibility of a visit to Spain and a visit by the Spanish king and queen or government officials to Santiago?

[Answer] A visit by the king and queen or government officials would be very well received by all the Chilean people, who feel deep affection for the mother country and its people.

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CSO: 3348/76

COMMUNIST LEADER COMMENTS ON DEMONSTRATIONS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 5 Oct 82 p 3

[Report on interview with Manuel Guerrero, communist leader, by Juan Martin La Rotta]

[Text] "On 30 September, hundreds of demonstrators streamed through the main streets of Santiago and Concepcion, the two largest cities in Chile, under the slogans of 'Bread, Work and Freedom.' The demonstration came only a few weeks after the impressive hunger strike that so stirred political life in the country."

These were the words of Manuel Guerrero, member of the Executive Committee and head of the International Commission of the Communist Youth of Chile (JJCC), during an interview with JUVENTUD REBELDE while visiting our country to participate in activities commemorating the 50th anniversary of that organization in Havana.

With these examples, the youth leader said, one can show the rise of the fighting spirit of the Chilean people, who are now moving determinedly down the path of the people's rebellion.

"In these demonstrations, the youth movement has always been in the front ranks," he said, "and with their active participation in this fight against the regime, young communists have also commemorated the 50 years of life of our organization."

Guerrero said that the past half century has been a period of struggle, of tireless fighting alongside the people, and he emphasized that on the day of the anniversary, the young people of Santiago thronged to the tomb of Victor Jara to render homage to his memory, while in the streets of the capital, there were giant protests against the regime, protests marked by a united spirit.

Guerrero added that the fighting spirit of the students is growing, shown by the fact that in all the universities of Chile, there have been constant demonstrations against the brutal Pinochet police.

Conflicts between employers and the different trade unions are increasing daily, he said, due to the critical economic and social situation in which

the country finds itself. Because of this situation, the number of unemployed exceeds 30 percent of the total labor force.

"Nine years after the fascist coup, one can say that the Chilean people have entered a new phase of the struggle, in which the usual forms of the fight: strikes, demonstrations and propaganda, are combined with new forms, aimed at striking out at the Pinochet regime."

Guerrero then added that in this process of struggle among young people, there is a great need for unity and for that very reason, the plenary session of the Central Committee of the JJCC recently held in Chile issued an appeal for the creation of a patriotic youth front to held the other forces of the country bury the fascist regime.

Referring to the young people who now live far from their country, he said that they are on the very same wave length with those fighting daily inside Chile. Like a democratic banner, they hoist their desire to return to the country in order to offer their participation in the front lines of this extraordinary challenge.

Finally, the Chilean youth leader thanked the UJC [Union of Young Communists] for the solidarity of Cuban youth with their organization and for the struggle waged by the people, as well as for the possibility of participating in events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Communist Youth of Chile held in the Cuban capital.

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CSO: 3348/76

ODEPLAN TO STUDY GOVERNMENT SOCIAL PROJECTS

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 24 Oct 82 p C 1

[Text] The National Planning Office, ODEPLAN, has begun a new study of social assistance programs in order to see whether it is necessary to expand those already existing or set up new ones.

This information was reported by the new deputy director of the agency, Jose Yuraszeck, in an interview with EL MERCURIO, one week after taking the position formerly occupied by Julio Dittborn, appointed chief of staff of the Ministry of Finance.

Yuraszeck added that the analyses are being made at the instructions of the director of ODEPLAN for the purpose of ascertaining whether the subsidy plans are reaching the country's poorest people.

He specifically referred to a study of the development of the Minimum Employment Plan (PEM) and the National Supplemental Food Program. It is through the latter program that 87 percent of children under the age of six receive milk.

Among the new programs set up, he mentioned the urbanization of camps, whose financing will mainly come from a credit being worked out with the Inter-American Development Bank, the IDB, for \$200 million. The plan will provide work for 40,000 persons for two years and will consist in providing areas with electric light, drinking water, sewer systems, toilets with all plumbing and deeds.

Yuraszeck justified the program, emphasizing that "social matters are the main concern of the government and economic growth is a means of accomplishing one of its main objectives, that of eliminating extreme poverty."

Tasks

"It is a great responsibility which the president has given me in appointing me to this post," he said, "because the National Planning Office is an organization that advises the president. Consequently, any opinion or study reaches the highest authority in the country through the director."

Discussing the work of the organization, he said that ODEPLAN covers areas that have always been its responsibility, plus others which have been assigned to it. He said that economic authority is now clearly identified with Minister Rolf Luders.

Yuraszeck said that the duty of the office is to see that long-range policies are carried out, to draft policies and submit them for the approval of the president of the republic. "In addition, it serves as an adviser to the Ministry of Finance in terms of public investments, on which proposals it issues a technical report. In addition, it makes studies of circumstantial and long-range topics, but its essential function is social," he said.

The deputy director said that social spending "has not merely gone up in real terms, but has improved in quality and efficiency. It now reaches the poorest population groups, which are identified through the Communal Social Assistance Committees. The government has not neglected and will not neglect the poorest income groups, no matter how great the effort might be."

In his opinion, "one must not forget that a system of indirect subsidies always helps groups different from those initially considered."

Internal Savings

With respect to medium- and long-range plans proposed by Minister Luders in the finance report, Yuraszeck said that if the country wants to grow again as it did between 1976 and 1981, "we must increase domestic savings because the lack of this element has been one of the main causes of low growth in recent decades."

He stressed the need to have stable and permanent rules and mentioned as a prime factor the role played by exports. On this point, he emphasized that "in order to have growth in this sector, the tariff system must remain at low, nondiscriminatory levels."

He said it would be logical for producers to ask for higher tariffs because "those producers are thinking about their own interests, which is legitimate, although it is obvious that this hurts the majority."

In his opinion, "it is absurd to hear exporters asking for higher tariffs. They should understand that raising tariffs -- that is, banning imports -- automatically means banning exports and therefore, the ruin of their activity."

Civil Engineering

The new deputy director of ODEPLAN is a civil engineer and has worked for the organization since 1978, when he occupied the post of regional secretary of planning and coordination of the 11th Region. At that time, he also served as acting regional administrator.

Since March 1980, he has worked in the central offices in Santiago, serving as head of the Department of International Technical Cooperation of ODEPLAN and later, as regional deputy director. He occupied that post when the president of the republic named him national deputy director.

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CSO: 3348/76

DELEGATION TO TRAVEL TO CHINA, KOREA

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Oct 82 p C 3

[Text] The Fifth Chilean-Chinese Joint Commission and the First Chilean-Korean Commission will visit Beijing and Seoul respectively next month.

This information was released yesterday by the deputy minister of foreign relations, Lt Gen Sergio Covarrubias, who will leave today to head the national delegation participating in both meetings.

The Chilean group will also include the undersecretary of finance, Col Enrique Seguel; the bilateral economic director of the Ministry of Foreign Relations, Patricio Lopez; director of bilateral policy Octavio Errazuriz; deputy director of bilateral policy Manuel Cardenas; and the deputy minister's chief of staff, Alberto Labbe.

Covarrubias said that he will also be accompanied by representatives of the business world, headed by the president of the Industrial Development Association (SOFOFA), Ernesto Ayala.

"We have great hope for the success of this Joint Commission, which will combine the public and private sectors in order to establish a rapprochement in bilateral relations," he said.

He added that it is highly likely that during his visit, he will meet with Chinese Minister of Foreign Relations Huang Hua and other government authorities, for which purpose meetings have already been requested.

The meeting in Beijing will be held from 1 to 7 November.

Covarrubias said that there will also be talks about the invitation extended to Foreign Minister Rojas to visit China and his counterpart's visit to our country, which could take place next year.

Meeting in Korea

Following the visit to Beijing, the same delegation will go to Seoul, South Korea, where, between 8 and 10 November, the work sessions will be held.

On that occasion, both nations will sign an economic and technical cooperation agreement.

The deputy minister of foreign relations said that "there can be no doubt that all the countries are in some way affected by the international recession. Commercial trade has dropped this year, resulting in the need to seek new ways of compensating for the drop and increasing our exports and imports of products of interest to us."

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CSO: 3348/76

BRIEFS

TRADE BALANCE FIGURES--The Central Bank has reported that the balance of trade registered a \$27 million surplus during the first half of October, thus bringing the total balance of trade surplus to \$100 million so far this year. On the other hand, it was also reported that the balance of payments registers a \$1,163,000,000 deficit and that on 14 October reserves stood at \$2,526,000,000. [PY101626 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 9 Nov 82 PY]

CSO: 3348/89

REPORTAGE ON BREZHNEV'S FUNERAL

PA 121416 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The CPSU and all of the Soviet people have suffered a great loss in that their highest leader, Leonid Brezhnev, has passed away. He was a loyal follower of Lenin's cause, an ardent patriot, an eminent revolutionary and fighter for peace and communism and a great politician and statesman of our times. This is contained in a message issued by the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Council of Ministers on the occasion of the death of Brezhnev, who died in Moscow on Wednesday from a heart attack. He was 75 years old.

I will always have the pleasant memory of the phrases with which Leonid Brezhnev began our frequent meetings in Moscow, which he spoke in perfect Spanish: Long live Cuba; How is Fidel? This was stated in Havana by Severo Aguirre, president of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty with Peoples, who was Cuban ambassador to the USSR for 8-1/2 years. Brezhnev, the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee member added, was a simple person who felt deep respect and affection for our fatherland and its leader, Fidel Castro. He added that on his return to Moscow after his visit to Cuba Leonid Brezhnev never stopped stressing the extraordinary enthusiasms he found in the Cuban people and their effusive demonstrations of affection toward Lenin's fatherland. I think that with Brezhnev's death our country has lost a great friend and humankind has lost a real champion in the struggle for peace and for a more just and brighter future.

The Soviet Embassy in Havana will open a book of condolences in the next few hours on the occasion of the death of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. Similarly, in all of the country's provinces and municipalities, the Cuban people will render posthumous homage to the distinguished international communist leader. Since early this morning, the main radio newscasts and national television have devoted special transmissions to emphasize the life of the distinguished fighter and have retransmitted reports of Brezhnev's visit to Cuba in 1974. On that occasion, Brezhnev received the Jose Marti Order, the highest decoration that the Cuban state grants. In the ceremony, then Cuban President Osvaldo Dorticos said that it was a source of pride for the Cuban people that such an award had been given to a son of the working class who had

always dedicated his energy to the great cause of the world's proletariat and had always maintained the firm conduct of a communist, loyal to the principles of international solidarity with the peoples.

Cuban television also presented scenes of the great popular welcome that Brezhnev was given in Havana and Santiago, cities visited by Brezhnev during his stay in Cuba.

CSO: 3248/232

ERNESTO VERA ON NICARAGUA, BREZHNEV'S DEATH

PA121606 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Interview with Ernesto Vera, secretary general of the Union of Cuban Journalists and deputy of the People's Government National Assembly by Pedro Martinez Pirez; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Vera, reports arrive constantly from Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, on U.S. imperialism's aggressive plans against the Sandinist revolution. I would like to hear your opinion on this issue.

[Answer] I think that such a serious situation--the denunciations by various Nicaraguan Government leaders, the concentration of Somozist elements and the participation of governments near Nicaragua in this aggression, which was inspired and instigated by U.S. imperialism--make it incumbent upon all honorable Latin Americans and all newsmen who are loyal to their people to do everything possible in denouncing and condemning this aggression, which is considered to be imminent. Wherever they may be in our countries, they must express their indignation at and condemnation of this aggression and their solidarity with Sandino's fatherland. I think that this is a moment in which the newsmen who belong to the Latin American Journalists Federation should implement all of the agreements of our continental organization, which were fully ratified in its third congress in Panama in July, and should express their active solidarity with the Nicaraguan people's struggle against this aggression, which was instigated, armed and directed by the CIA and U.S. imperialism.

[Question] Vera, only a few hours ago we learned of the death in Moscow of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. The Cuban news media immediately relayed that sad report and recalled, among other events, Brezhnev's visit to Cuba in 1974. I would like to know your views on the death of the Soviet statesman.

[Answer] It is evident--and we have already seen this--that our people are truly dismayed, because for many years they placed high value on the great importance to humankind of the unselfish, constant and persevering efforts on behalf of peace and detente exerted by that great leader and dear companero. In addition, he was a special friend to the Cubans, one whom we had the opportunity of receiving in our fatherland and of offering all of our love and affection and all of the gratitude that we feel to Lenin's great fatherland, to his party and people, whom he so honorably represented. We think that this is

a great loss, but we are confident that his example will be a constant source of encouragement to all honorable men in the world and to his closest comrades in the CPSU leadership in the struggle for peace and happiness in the world.

CSO: 3248/232

HAVANA VIEWS U.S. ELECTION RESULTS

PA061946 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Nov 82

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan said in Washington that he is pleased with the results of the legislative elections held Tuesday in the United States, where the Democrats triumphed decisively in the House of Representatives and won the governorships of 34 states.

In view of this defeat, it seems surprising that the U.S. President should express satisfaction. However, Reagan usually acts like this. He voices the most absurd judgments and tries to convince everyone that the setbacks of his economic policy are unobjectionable victories. Now he is trying to convince others that the Democratic Party's 100-seat majority in the House of Representatives is a Republican victory and that the loss of the governorships in 7 states, including Texas, the traditional conservative bastion, is also a relevant victory.

The truth is that the U.S. citizens voted against President Reagan's economic and social policy, against unemployment, high budget deficits and the reductions and suspensions of the benefit programs for the nation's neediest sectors. The elections showed convincingly that the U.S. citizens reject the plans drawn by President Reagan and his counselors for the recovery of the battered U.S. economy.

The U.S. people also expressed themselves on other important aspects regarding which President Reagan was also amply defeated. The most important result of the matters submitted for consultation is the overwhelming majority of votes obtained by the proposal to freeze nuclear weapons. This proposal was approved in the 39 cities where it was submitted for referendum. This decision by the U.S. citizens shows that Americans reject the U.S. foreign policy, which is based on the prevalence of force, the development of the arms race and the increase of tension in the world's major conflict areas.

Although the U.S. President has refused the Democrats this victory in these legislative elections, he has had to admit that the almost 14 million unemployed in the United States represent a serious problem, and that the budget deficit faced by his government is caused largely by the huge military expenses.

According to a survey conducted by the U.S. magazine BUSINESS WEEK, most of the U.S. citizens reject President Reagan's extreme rightist policy and favor a return to more moderate tendencies. Lately, the businessmen who massively supported the Republican government have shown concern over the continual decrease of earnings, the progressive stagnation of the economy, the fragility of the financial system and the tightening of the market resulting from the high unemployment rate.

The businessmen have no doubt that President Reagan's economic policy is a total failure, and they have begun to demand corrective measures to prevent the continuation of the crisis, since everything seems to indicate that the situation will continue to deteriorate in 1983.

The result of the legislative election in the United States suggests that the Presidential elections in 1984 will not be favorable to the Republican candidates, and evenless so if Ronald Reagan runs for reelection.

CSO: 3248/231

U.S. 'INTERFERENCE' IN AFGHANISTAN DECRIED

PA140023 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Nov 82

[World events commentary, read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] Recently, the Afghan authorities presented six counterrevolutionary terrorists, captured while engaged in criminal actions in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, before correspondents accredited in Kabul.

One of the prisoners, (Abdul Raschi Khan), acted as the counterrevolutionaries' judge in the Valley of [name indistinct]. He and his assistants tortured and murdered officials, teachers and doctors who had been assigned by the government to work in that remote region, close to the Pakistani border.

Two other terrorists, (Shalam Gauls) and (Abdullah Hyan), told the correspondents that foreign instructors, primarily North Americans and Pakistanis, had trained them to stage the sabotage operations in which they engaged.

The prisoners' confessions confirm the oft-repeated charges that the Washington government participates actively in the hostile actions by counterrevolutionary elements in Afghan territory.

As soon as the Afghan people decided to liberate themselves and staged their revolution in April 1968, the United States began to meddle in that country's internal affairs. Two months later, a U.S. Government initiative led to a NATO symposium in Annapolis for an assessment of the situation in Afghanistan. In July of the same year, the first counterrevolutionaries, recruited by the CIA and trained by U.S. instructors on Pakistani territory, began their infiltration into Afghanistan. Such U.S. intervention has continued since, as the Pentagon and White House strategists are determined to counter the setback suffered by U.S. policy in Southeast Asia, the fall of the shah of Iran and the victory of the Afghan revolution, which was a serious drawback to its plans of aggression against the USSR and other countries of the region.

The aggressive pressures on Afghanistan have continued now for 4 years, including a campaign to discredit that country and to depict it and the USSR as potential menaces to the peace and security of neighboring countries.

Despite the hundreds of millions of dollars invested by the United States in that undeclared war against the Afghan people, however, Washington continues to suffer an evergrowing number of setbacks in the region. As a result, Ronald Reagan's government is now trying to raise that conflict to the level of official policy by adopting a so-called resolution on Afghanistan.

The United States has opposed negotiations between Afghanistan and Pakistan, as any such settlement in that part of the world would run contrary to the Washington administration's interests. Therefore, it is taking advantage of growing tensions in Southeast Asia as a pretext for justifying its war plans and strengthening its arsenals, in case of a possible military confrontation with the USSR.

The U.S. Government needs to keep the Afghanistan issue alive in order to appease the wave of protests throughout the world over the unlimited Washington support for the Israeli forces' attacks on and crimes against the Arab nations, particularly against the Palestinian patriots.

Added to the protection it offers the African racists who are trying to dominate their neighbors in Africa's Southern Cone; the aid it gives the fascist tyrannies that are oppressing and murdering the peoples of Chile, El Salvador, Uruguay and Paraguay, along with that given to other reactionary regimes, is the open U.S. interference in Afghanistan, yet another violation by Washington of the rights of a sovereign state, which is a member of the United Nations and of the Nonaligned Movement.

CSO: 3248/234

HAVANA DEPLORES KILLING, REPRESSION IN GUATEMALA

PA061657 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Nov 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] As time passes, the killings perpetrated by the nazi-fascists in Europe toward the middle of this century are beginning to pale compared to those which are being perpetrated almost daily by the dictatorial and pro-imperialist regimes in America, Asia, Africa and even Europe. We do not think it is an exaggeration to say that such luminaries of political murder as Adolf Hitler, Menachem Begin, Augusto Pinochet and Efraim Rios Montt--to name just a few--can be placed together on the pedestal reserved for murderers of peoples.

Sadly, the top military and political authorities of El Salvador and Guatemala have been identified as Hitlers, even though they have spent less time in power organizing the killing of human beings than that spent by the head of the German Third Reich. The current repression in Guatemala is particularly intense. The ruling classes in that Central American country committed over 70,000 political murders from 1954 to 1980. The victims of the counterinsurgency repression totalled 13,500 in 1981 and murders thus far this year are already close to 14,000.

For these reasons, the victims of repression are not being counted as individuals but as exterminated villages. Panzos, Nebaj, (Xaju), (Colla), Rabinal, (Cujinco), San Mateo (Ixtatan), (Fuentebas) and (Chimax) are but a few of the villages that have ceased to exist due to the Guatemalan reactionary forces. At the same time, clandestine graveyards periodically appear throughout the country. The impunity with which the massacres are carried out is a trademark of the Guatemalan repressive forces. In addition, disappearances through kidnapping or unacknowledged arrests have become systematic in Guatemala. There are no political prisoners. The victims are mostly Indians, workers, students, professionals and Christians committed to the struggle for liberation and democratic rights.

For this reason, hundreds of Guatemalan peasants constantly cross the border to seek refuge in Mexico. This unprecedented immigration involves entire villages that flee en masse to the jungles in Chiapas and other areas in

southern Mexico. According to the Mexican daily newspaper UNO MAS UNO, on Wednesday alone, 3,500 peasants, most of whom were children, women and elderly people, entered Mexico this way. This is the largest instance of forcible exodus in the last 18 months.

Nevertheless, Guatemalan families are unable to find peace even in those places. Troops of the repressive army unabashedly cross the border and approach the areas where the Guatemalan emigres are concentrated. In the last few days, troops of the Efraim Rios Montt regime camped near Montebelo Lagoon, close to the Mexican border, to intimidate the approximately 40,000 Guatemalan refugees on Mexican soil. A contingent of some 100 troops from the Kaibiles, the dictatorship's repressive corps, staged a raid and fired upon refugees from the (Santiago el Vertice) camp. A Guatemalan Air Force helicopter participated in the operation. It circles the area at low altitude with its side doors open and the barrel of its machineguns peering through them.

These actions are openly supported by the top Guatemalan and U.S. authorities who are bent on exterminating Guatemala's rural population and turning that Central American country into the bastion of Central American reaction.

CSO: 3248/233

HAVANA SCORES U.S. MILITARY AID TO GUATEMALA

PA132355 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 12 Nov 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] It is not secret that the United States frequently violates the laws of its own government institutions. In 1977, U.S. Congress forbade the supplying of military aid to Guatemala and accused this country's military dictatorship of violating human rights.

In open defiance of that legislative opposition, President Ronald Reagan's government will resume supplying weapons to Efraim Rios Montt's government. To justify this position, the United States argues that this fascist general, who is responsible for killing and murdering peasants, will lead that Central American country back to democracy and respect for human rights.

This decision to grant military aid mocks world public opinion, because only a few days ago, several Congressmen, representatives of social organizations and of the U.S. Catholic Church repeated the numerous charges that the Indian and peasant massacres have increased in Guatemala during Rios Montt's military government.

The U.S. catholic bishops conference repudiated the U.S. plans to resume military aid to Guatemala because, it stressed, instead of improving, the human rights situation in this nation grows worse by the day. From March to June this year alone, between 6,000 and 8,000 persons died in Guatemala, especially in the peasant areas, where the army murders residents on the smallest suspicion that they help the guerrilla movement.

Due to this cruel and indiscriminate persecution, some 100,000 peasants have sought refuge in Mexico because, according to charges reiterated by international organizations, the Guatemalan Indian population is suffering the worst genocide since the country was conquered by the Spaniards.

The press of neighboring countries frequently publishes descriptions of the massacres against the Indians: pregnant women hacked to death with machetes, children decapitated, elderly people skinned alive. All this demonstrates the bestiality of a regime which tries to pacify the country by means of the most atrocious crimes.

Despite this undeniable reality, the U.S. Government is trying to prop up Rios Montt's government because he faithfully guards the interests of the U.S. transnationals which recently increased their investment in key sectors of the Guatemalan economy by more than \$300 million. So it is not strange that the United States should try to conceal the mass murders and the scorched-earth policy practiced by the Guatemalan regime.

After mentioning the many charges regarding the recent killings of Guatemalan peasants, Michael D. Barnes, chairman of the U.S. House's Subcommittee for Inter-American Affairs, warned that if the Executive Branch supplies Rios Montt's regime with more military equipment it will meet increasing opposition in Congress the next time it requests more money to provide military assistance to other Central American countries. Barnes mentioned Honduras and El Salvador among these countries.

Washington depends on these two countries' regimes to carry out its plans to overthrow the Sandinist people's government and its plans to drench in blood the revolutionary struggles in Guatemala and El Salvador.

CSO: 3248/234

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES IMF LOAN TO SOUTH AFRICA

PA110111 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Nov 82

["World Events" commentary read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] Recently, the IMF announced that it was granting a loan of \$1.1 billion to South Africa. This sum will be used by the Pretoria regime to continue pursuing its aggressive racist policy of expansion and enslavement of neighboring countries.

The IMF decision is a provocation to the international public, which has expressed within the United Nations its rejection of the criminal methods of the promoters of apartheid and of the warlike adventures in which South Africa is engaged, with the backing of the United States, against Angola, Mozambique and other countries of the Southern Cone of Africa.

The measure is also more proof of Washington's domination of the IMF, which does not grant loans to Nicaragua, Vietnam or other revolutionary states and places great obstacles and onerous conditions in the way of other nations of the so-called Third World in granting them ridiculous sums with which to meet their vital needs.

Six years ago, the IMF gave South Africa a loan of \$476 million, a sum that permitted the regime to face up to its increase military expenditures at the time of its unsuccessful warlike adventure against Angola. Now, the South African racists have intensified preparations to launch new aggressive actions against the Angolan people and to try to perpetuate their domination, of Namibia, a territory that is illegally occupied and whose decolonization was supposed to take place this year under a resolution adopted by the United Nations.

As part of the expansionist strategy that Pretoria is pursuing in the Southern Cone of Africa with the support and complicity of the U.S. Government, for over 2 years the racists have intensified their destabilization plans against the frontline countries. Not only do they attack these countries directly, they also carry out infiltrations, sabotage and coup attempts inside those countries.

In September, documents taken from four mercenaries who were killed as they were attempting to sabotage communications equipment in Namibia indicated that these actions were ordered by the South African Defense Force, an organization that the racists have entrusted with the task of promoting and organizing the destabilization of neighboring countries.

Simultaneously with the increase in warlike activities and the consequent increase in military expenditures, there came the announcement of the IMF's loan to South Africa, which thus appears to be a form of compensation to the racists for their role as the main gendarme of imperialism in Africa.

This economic injection will permit Pretoria to continue its aggressive plans in the Southern Cone of Africa and increase repression in Namibia, in an effort to keep that country from achieving independence within the time frame scheduled by the United Nations. Similarly, it will serve to accelerate the process initiated by the United States to link South Africa more closely to the objectives of the U.S. imperialists and their European allies in NATO. These preparations began to emerge after Ronald Reagan's assumption of office, and at present they are being intensified with the agreement for joint actions by the so-called U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces and the so-called Rapid Shock Troops of the South African Navy.

In this way, Washington and Pretoria are preparing to mock the UN resolutions on the independence of Namibia and the isolation of South Africa, while at the same time consolidating their strategic alliance against the other countries in the region.

CSO: 3248/235

REPORTAGE ON SOUPHANOUVONG'S VISIT

Souphanouvong Leaves Santiago Province

FL101943 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Text] Souphanouvong, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, left Santiago de Cuba today with the high-level Laotian delegation that is accompanying him. He was sent off by Jose Ramon Balaguer, member of the Central Committee and provincial party first secretary, members of the provincial Politburo and party committee, the people's government provincial assembly and representatives of the different organizations.

During his stay in Santiago de Cuba, Souphanouvong and his retinue toured historic places of the city.

Souphanouvong Visits Friendship Institute

FL102310 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Text] Souphanouvong, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Politburo and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, has praised the fraternity between Laos and Cuba during a meeting held at the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples [ICAP] in Havana.

The distinguished visitor appreciated the solidarity expressed by Cuba during his fatherland's process of liberation and present process of development.

Present at the activity were Armando Acosta, alternate member of the Politburo, Sombat Chounlamani, Lao Democratic Republic ambassador to Cuba, and Luis Mas Reyes, Cuban ambassador to Laos.

CSO: 3248/234

BRIEFS

MALMIERCA MEETS IRANIAN REPRESENTATIVE—Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca yesterday met with Mr Jamal Shemirani, director of the UN Information Center with headquarters in Mexico City, who presented his credentials accrediting him to our country. Mr Shemirani, an Iranian citizen, is a graduate of political sciences and, in addition, attended the Social Sciences and Journalism Institute of Higher Studies. He has also held the post of Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations as well as charge d'affaires of the permanent mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the United Nations. [Text] [FL091308 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Nov 82]

VENTURA ADDRESSES UJC MEETING—The party values the work of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] as positive and steadily improving, Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura has stressed in his closing remarks at the organization's second plenum. The meeting, held at the Julio Antonio Mella UJC Cadre School in this capital, focused its attention on the work being carried out with the Jose Marti Pioneer organization and the people's camping plans. UJC First Secretary Carlos Lage reported on the tasks fulfilled since the holding of the Fourth UJC Congress in April of this year. The plenum participants agreed to congratulate the outstanding athletes and members of the UJC national committee, Alberto Juantorena, Maria Caridad Colon and Daniel Nunez, for their magnificent performances in the 14th Central American and Caribbean games. In his closing remarks, Machado Ventura referred to the integrity which must distinguish a UJC cadre and to the new structure to be adopted by the youth organization for its municipal branches. [Text] [FL111419 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Nov 82]

REDUCED SUGAR EXPORT PROPOSAL—The Group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries—GEPLACEA—has severely criticized the policy of subsidies for sugar producers being conducted by the EEC in EEC nations. GEPLACEA noted that this creates an unfair competition with the producers of sugar from sugarcane, because the market becomes saturated and prices fall drastically. The international sugar organization proposed to the EEC the alternative of reducing sugar exports of GEPLACEA member countries so long as European countries do likewise. If this proposal is accepted, a balance between supply and demand in the sugar market could be achieved and a recovery of the prices could be possible. [Text] [FL111459 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Nov 82]

KATUSHEV LAYS WREATH--A floral wreath has been laid at the Mausoleum of the Soviet internationalist soldier southwest of Havana in the framework of the activities to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution. The solemn ceremony was attended by Div Gen Sixto Batista Santana, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the Central Political Directorate of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], and Konstantin Katushev, Soviet ambassador to Cuba. Soviet military specialists working in Cuba, FAR officers and Soviet and Cuban pioneers also attended in the ceremony. [Text] [FLO41921 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Nov 82]

FMLN VICTORY IN MOROZAN--A Salvadoran Army company made up of 250 soldiers was decimated by FMLN combatants in heavy clashes that took place on the road between Sociedad and Corinto in Morazan Department. The company commander, Major Lopez, fled as soon as the fighting began. Some 30 to 35 soldiers were killed in this action, including Lt (Alonso Escalante) and Cadet (Ramiro Miranda). Another (?35) officers and NCO's were among the 60 troops captured by the guerrillas. The FMLN combatants seized 3 mortars, 2 machineguns, 1 90-mm canno, 71 rifles and 2 radios. According to observers, Major Lopez' desertion reflects the low morale in the Salvadoran Army and the increasing reluctance of military leaders with direct command over troops to continue with the burden of the war while the armed forces' top echelons grow rich in comfortable urban posts. Meanwhile, it was reported from San Salvador that the Human Rights Commission has indicated that the country's repressive forces have killed approximately 36,000 civilians from October 1979 to date. In addition, the Monetary Board of El Salvador suspended its authorization for the purchase of foreign exchange in the country, a measure that responds to the country's poor economic situation. [Text] [PA111958 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 82]

FMLN GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES--Dispatches from El Salvador indicate that guerrilla forces have attacked the 5 De Noviembre hydroelectric plant, 80 km north of San Salvador and that half of the Central American country was left without power. According to the reports, the guerrillas dynamited one of the plant's high-tension towers. There were no casualties among the patriots or among the forces of the regime. In his usual Sunday homily, Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, apostolic administrator of San Salvador, declared that last week, rightist paramilitary groups murdered an average of five persons daily. He added that the Salvadoran church has the obligation to call for reconciliation, dialogue and coexistence. This Sunday there were reports of armed clashes between troops of the tyranny and guerrilla forces near San Salvador. It has also been reported that there have been big clashes in Chalatenango and Morazan departments where thousands of the tyranny's soldiers with artillery and air support as well as with support from Honduran soldiers are trying to recover the territory occupied by the FMLN. Tegucigalpa news sources have reported that a Honduran soldier has admitted that Honduran troops participate alongside of the Salvadoran Army in secret operations against Salvadoran rebel forces. The soldier, who was not identified, has declared that seven of his companeros died in one of these actions along the border area where soldiers of the Salvadoran regime are involved in an antiguerrilla offensive. [Text] [PA152044 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 82]

COSTA RICA KIDNAPPING ATTEMPT--Costa Rican police forces continued the intensive search for the six persons who tried to kidnap (Tetsuji Kosuga), manager of the Japanese Matsushita Electric Company, in San Jose. Heavy fighting ensued between the group attempting the kidnapping and the police. As a result, several persons were wounded, including the Japanese industrialist. [Text] [PA112038 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 82]

AFRICANS DEPRIVED OF HUMAN RIGHTS--At the UN General Assembly, Cuba has charged that 26 million Africans are being treated as foreigners in their own land and are deprived of their fundamental human rights. The Cuban charge came up during the debate on the policy of apartheid of the racist South African regime. Cuban Ambassador Rolando Lopez said the roots of apartheid are in the world's proslavery conception and fascist ideology. Elsewhere in his speech, the Cuban diplomat explained South Africa's international behavior with examples, such as the illegal occupation of Namibia and a portion of Angolan territory, actions against frontline countries and acts of vandalism against the Republic of Seychelles. He stated that such policy of the Pretoria regime is possible only because of the multifaceted support being given by the United States. [Text] [FL101629 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Nov 82]

ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE DAY--The Angolan Embassy in Cuba and the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] have held a meeting in Havana on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the liberation of Angola on 11 November. (Manuel Ditutala), first secretary of the Embassy in Cuba, said that the Angolan victory belongs to all the peoples who love peace and expressed gratefulness for the help received from the Cuban internationalists. The Angolan leader added that the present struggle of the Angolan people consists in changing the social structures left by Portuguese colonialism. At the meeting (Cristina Gonzalez), a member of the AALAPSO secretariat, said that evoking the struggle of the Angolan people was tantamount to expressing the slogan: The struggle continues, victory is assured. (Gonzalez) read a message from Melba Hernandez, secretary general of AALAPSO, to Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Angolan People's Republic and to the MPLA-Labor Party, greeting the Angolan people in the name of the organization on occasion of this anniversary. [Text] [FL101621 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 10 Nov 82]

SOVIET CULTURE DAYS--A period of Soviet culture days was inaugurated in Havana last night with the participation of Armando Hart Davalos, Politburo member and culture minister. The culture days will end on 14 November and include the participation of some 200 first class Soviet artists who will demonstrate various aspects of Soviet artistic activities. Rafael Almeida, vice minister of culture, delivered the opening speech as a greeting to the 65th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution and the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR. Almeida said that since the first culture days, which were commemorated 10 years ago, the cultural relations between the two countries have expanded at the same rate as their fraternal bonds. [Text] [FL101330 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1228 GMT 10 Nov 82]

DELEGATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA—A delegation from the University of Havana headed by its rector, (Eduardo Baston Fuentes) [as heard], is holding talks regarding cooperation between Cuban and Czechoslovak universities. [Text]
[FL061936 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1509 GMT 6 Nov 82]

CSO: 3248/231

BRIEFS

TAX CUT--Roseau, Dominica, 9 Nov, CANA--The Dominica Parliament today approved legislation to ease the income tax burden here from January next year. Prime minister and minister of finance, Eugenia Charles told the Dominica House of Assembly the proposed tax reductions would cut government's annual revenue by about 1.8 million dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.). She stated that Dominica now received more than 15 million dollars in revenue from income tax, 13.2 million dollars from individuals and the other two million dollars from companies. The new programme also provides for a new regime of taxation of non-resident shipping companies and life assurance companies. [FL100215 Bridgetown CANA in English 2245 GMT 9 Nov 82]

CARICAD CHAIRMANSHIP--Bridgetown, Barbados, 26 Oct, CANA--The Dominica Government has been elected to the chairmanship of the Barbados-based Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD), it was announced here. Executive Director of CARICAD Selwin Smith said that the chairmanship has previously been held by Barbados, Jamaica and Antigua. He said that Dominica was elected at the end of a one-day meeting here of the board of directors of CARICAD. Dominica's representative Kenneth Richards assured delegates that his government thought highly of CARICAD and that it would be doing all in its power to give the organisation its support, Smith said. [Text] [FL261810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1638 GMT 26 Oct 82]

USO: 3298/1137

BRIEFS

OFFICIALS, FUT LEADERS MEET--President Hurtado and leaders of the United Workers Front [FUT] will meet in the next few days to analyze the government's social policy and its benefits for the country's workers. Meanwhile, the ministerial commission in charge of resuming negotiations with FUT, after meeting on Friday decided to form mixed working commissions with the state secretariats that must analyze some of the viewpoints mentioned by the organization in its list of demands. Tomorrow members of FUT will meet with the minister of agriculture and livestock to analyze the implementation of the law on agrarian reform and colonization and to learn about the agricultural labor sector's viewpoint in relation to the agrarian code, food prices, etc. On Thursday the labor minister will meet with union leaders to analyze the collective conflicts that each of the three main unions has under litigation. At the same time, the social welfare minister will meet with members of the people's committee in order to solve the problem of a farm in Conocoto, which the people want for a housing construction program. Once this cycle of talks is over, the ministers will evaluate FUT's demands and together with the president will seek possible revisions on social policies. There was no announcement at Government Palace as to when the meeting between FUT leaders and the president will take place. Until yesterday the president was staying home on doctors' orders. [Text] [PA101320 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Nov 82]

INFLATION FIGURES--Sources close to the National Institute of Statistics and Census have reported that in October the inflation rate was 20.2 percent. This figure is one of the highest in this decade. [PA061650 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Nov 82 PA]

CSO: 3348/88

REPORTAGE ON REGIONAL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cayenne LA PRESSE DE GUYANE in French 28 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] A special meeting of the Regional Council was held on Thursday evening. The agenda of the elected council members included: aspects of planning in Guiana. The two reports examined--a pilot study of the cultural action plan and the preliminary report on the regional development plan--were adopted unanimously. Six council members, Messrs Brune, Bellony, Jean-Louis, Massel, Ho-A-Chuck and Patient, did not attend the meeting. Dr Lecante expressed his regret "concerning this massive absence of right-wing councilors, except for the presence of the independent colleague Catherine and Leon Bertrand."

Before getting to the heart of the matter, the chairman of the Regional Council resituated the establishment of regional planning in its respective context. "Guiana has undeniable assets ... but until now it has lacked: a reference plan for society, a political will assuring its implementation and an institutional framework."

These three conditions will soon be met and will make possible Guiana's real development. According to Georges Othily, "the plan is more necessary than ever; a child of periods of crisis, it is a response to periods of crisis, consisting of not accepting the crisis It will have to be a harmonious arrangement of these economic and social factors and territorial communities."

In response, the commissioner of the republic stated: "The proceedings which you will carry out are the first regionalized expression of the government's intended decentralization policy. Based on that policy, we will see local government and central government rise up side by side. The cooperation to be established must be candid and productive."

The council members then went on to examine the pilot study of the cultural action plan. After noting the remarks of the ad hoc committee, they unanimously approved the study, but not without Elie Castor expressing his disappointment over the opinion issued by the CES [expansion unknown] 3 weeks ago "following a superficial study."

Dr Lecante was also given the opportunity to request the establishment of a commission "for social safety," to solve the problem of rising crime "resulting from poorly controlled immigration into Guiana."

"To speak of culture," he said, "is to speak of community life. But disorderly groups and gangs, creating the conditions for crime and threatening the security of the country's inhabitants, are developing more and more in Guiana."

Another concern of the councilor from Montsinery-Tonnegrande, which should be the subject of the commission's proceedings: "The increase in drug consumption." Six council members volunteered to participate in this work group: Messrs Adelson, Barrat, Bertrand, Castor, Holder and Lecante. The commissioner of the republic in turn assured "that the administration would lend its full support to this initiative."

The second half of the meeting was devoted to examining the preliminary report on Guiana's regional plan for the years 1984 to 1988.

The plan is intended to promote real development in Guiana. The drafters of this document of approximately 40 pages have therefore defined three principal goals: the establishment of a productive economy, with efforts focusing on agriculture, livestock breeding, small and medium-size businesses and fishing; the reduction of foreign dependence, particularly in the case of energy; greater participation of Guianese in the development of their region.

In order to be achieved, these plans will require an improvement in the level of transportation and research.

The key to this development: forestry; it was also at the center of last night's discussions. In explaining the position of his group on this matter, Jean Catayee said: "We favor local processing of rough timber." Concerning the mode of exploitation--natural selection or clearing followed by replanting--according to Jean Catayee, it is "still too early to give an answer." The director of the ONF [National Forestry Office] also pointed out "that reforestation research was only in its infancy and that it would be necessary to be patient."

The RPR [Rally for the Republic] councilor, Leon Bertrand, then cautioned the drafters of the document: "Your proposals, to which I am not opposed, are very ambitious and may way be deflected from their goals when they are submitted to the national planning commission (in which Mr Georges Othily will participate) and when the matter of financing is discussed."

According to Leon Bertrand: "Few proposals will be kept and this document, above all, has an election purpose aimed at deceiving the Guianese."

In particular, Leon Bertrand made four criticisms: "The reasons for the failure of previous plans have been poorly analyzed; how to find investors in the present economic situation; how to steer the Guianese toward the private sector considering the disparity of wages from the public sector; finally, the problem of infrastructures is insufficiently resolved."

Concerning the economic situation, Georges Othily replied: "It's not our fault if the philosophy to which you subscribe is anxious to spread the threat of layoffs among the population." As to the wage gap, the chairman of the Regional Council urged Leon Bertrand to set an example by resigning from public office

Before Georges Othily adjourned the meeting, Elie Castor, referring to Air France's decision to eliminate a direct Paris-Cayenne flight, expressed his wish that the Regional Council issue a protest with the company.

In the view of Andre Lecante, it is necessary to seek out other airline companies without delay and review the matter of the monopoly.

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CSO: 3219/1

NEW ECONOMIC POLICY FOR OVERSEAS DEPARTMENT DISCUSSED

Cayenne LA PRESSE DE GUYANE in French 26, 27, 30 Aug 82

[26 Aug 82 pp 1, 3]

[Text] Pursuant to the conclusions of the proceedings of the interministerial commission established on 2 February (COMBARNOUS [expansion unknown] Commission), the government decreed on 22 July, during an interministerial committee meeting chaired by Mr Pierre Mauroy, a series of measures aimed at promoting production activities in DOM [Overseas Departments], improving the organization of the sugar economy, expediting land reform in Guadeloupe and developing Guiana's economic potential. Measures disclosed in the August issue of SEDETOM ACTUALITES:

I. Promotion of Production Activities

This involved formulating measures likely to bring about the development of private productive investment to achieve the goals established by the Interim Plan for 1982-83.

The decisions made concern:

The government aid system, for the purpose of increasing the incentive effect of aid, to extend its scope to include new sectors, and to make the system clearer and more selective, while limiting the possibilities of tax evasion.

The economic environment of DOM businesses, in order to make them competitive by improving credit terms, reducing production costs (particularly the prices of raw materials and capital goods) and facilitating access to markets.

Modification of System of Financial and Tax Incentives

The following decisions were made:

Equipment Subsidy (Decree No 81-310 of 3 March 1981)

The ceiling specified in Article 8 of the decree is no longer valid. An interministerial decree will set the threshold beyond which the respective project

will be examined by the Central Approval Committee. For 1983, it is recommended that projects whose subsidy exceeds Fr 100,000 per job created be examined by the Central Committee.

Article 1 provides for extending the subsidy's scope of application to the following activities: operations for the production of renewable energy for resale; operations and facilities for seaside resorts and aquatic sports; recreational operations and facilities which help to develop the attractiveness of a natural or cultural tourist site; sports operations and facilities.

Article 3 of the decree will specify the conditions for granting the subsidy to tourist activities, i.e.:

Facilities shall entail a minimum investment of Fr 200,000 and the creation of a minimum of 5 jobs.

Facilities shall be indiscriminately accessible to local and tourist clientele, without any difference in rates for the two types of clientele.

Facilities shall be operated on a regular basis during the tourist season and shall not include any special usage rights to the benefit of the owner(s).

Facilities used solely for commercial bar and restaurant purposes are excluded.

The decision for granting the subsidy to the aforementioned tourist activities shall be made by the secretary of state for DOM-TOM [Overseas Territories] on the recommendation of the Local and Central Approval Commissions.

Employment Subsidy (Decree No 65-1005 of 26 November 1965, amended)

Article 3 provides for coordinating the minimum requirements for granting the subsidy with the requirements for granting the equipment subsidy (Articles 3 and 4 of Decree 81-310 of 3 March 1981).

Article 2 stipulates that commercial and administrative jobs may be considered in the 30-percent limit of productive jobs for projects involving the local market and in the 50-percent limit of productive jobs when the projects shall export part of their production.

Article 2 shall stipulate that seasonal jobs in the hotel business, tourist operations and fishing may be considered in calculating the subsidy, provided these jobs exhibit seasonal regularity from year to year and that the equivalent of the minimum number of jobs to be created is satisfied.

Article 1 provides for extending the subsidy's scope of application to the following activities: operations for the production of renewable energy for resale; operations and facilities for seaside resorts and aquatic sports; recreational operations and facilities which help to develop the attractiveness of a natural or cultural tourist site; sports operations and facilities.

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Facilities to be used solely for commercial bar and restaurant purposes are excluded.

The decision for granting the subsidy to the aforementioned tourist operations shall be made by the secretary of state for DOM-TOM on the recommendation of the Local and Central Approval Committees.

Reorganization of Tax System

As part of the appropriations bill for 1983, the following changes shall be made in the current system, resulting from Article 79 of the 1980 appropriations bill:

The tax deduction set at 50 percent will increase to 100 percent without additional consideration for cash contributions to the capital of the SDR [Special Drawing Rights] of DOM.

Certain operations of special importance for the development of DOM or requiring exceptionally large investments may be entitled, following approval issued by the minister of budget and on the recommendation of the Central Approval Committee, to a tax deduction of 100 percent on the amount of the cash contributions made.

In this case, the granting of approval will be subject to waiver by the company receiving such contributions of its 50-percent tax deduction on its own investments. It will in fact be combined with granting of the tax exemption to companies for 10 years. In the case of approval permitting a 100-percent tax deduction, the beneficiary companies shall waive the deduction of 15, 10 and 5 percent applicable to all territories.

Individuals may be entitled to the tax deduction for investment in eligible sectors, as provided by Article 79 of the 1980 appropriations bill and such as redefined elsewhere, up to the limit of 25 percent of their annual taxable income beyond a deduction of Fr 25,000.

The scope of application of Article 79 of the 1980 appropriations bill (50 percent tax deduction) shall be extended to:

Contributions to the capital of financial establishments, provided they agree to invest at least 90 percent of their available funds in sectors eligible

for the 50-percent deduction. The financial establishments themselves will not be entitled to any deduction.

Operations for the production of renewable energy for resale.

Contributions to hotel-related operations, rated and implemented by a sole-proprietor company without the allocation of premises to partners and linked by a contract for at least 10 years to an operating company. Should the investments be of special importance for DOM or represent an exceptionally large amount, the rate of the deduction may be raised to 100 percent of the contributions on the decision of the minister of budget following recommendation by the Central Approval Committee.

Contributors to operations carried out under the coownership system or a comparable arrangement, provided: the coownership arrangement entails an obligation for maintaining all fixed assets in a permanent location for at least 10 years; the management agreement, for an equivalent duration, is concluded with an operating company; the contract linking the coowners to the operating company precludes all rights to free use and all preferential rates.

The applicability of the 50-percent tax deduction shall also be extended to the tourist operations listed in the "Equipment Subsidy" section, provided these operations have previously obtained equipment and employment subsidies, that they invest a minimum of Fr 200,000 and that they create a minimum of 5 jobs.

Facilities shall entail a minimum investment of Fr 200,000 and the creation of a minimum of 5 jobs.

Facilities shall be indiscriminately accessible to local and tourist clientele alike, without any difference in rates for the two types of clientele.

Facilities shall be operated on a regular basis during the tourist season and shall not involve any special usage rights to the benefit of the owner(s).

Facilities used solely for commercial bar and restaurant purposes are excluded.

The decision for granting the tax deduction to the aforementioned operations shall be made by the minister of budget on the recommendation of the Central and Local Approval Committees.

Ten-Year Tax Exemption System for Companies

The system permitting tax exemptions for companies for 10 years shall be extended to companies eligible for the system of financial and tax incentives, including those eligible for the various new extensions.

Coordination of Levels of Jurisdiction

The deputy minister of budget shall delegate authority to the directors of DOM Tax Services so that projects with investments of less than Fr 4 million shall be under their jurisdiction, following the Local Committee's recommendation.

Franchise

On the approval of the minister of budget, metropolitan industrial franchisers shall be able to deduct from their taxable earnings the amount of fees paid following franchise agreements by companies or establishments located in DOM.

[27 Aug 82 p 1]

[Text] Pursuant to the conclusions of the proceedings of the interministerial commission established on 2 February (COMBARNOUS Commission), the government decreed on 22 July, during an interministerial committee meeting chaired by Mr Pierre Mauroy, a series of measures aimed at promoting production activities in DOM, improving the organization of the sugar economy, expediting land reform in Guadeloupe and developing Guiana's economic potential. Measures disclosed in the August issue of SEDETOM ACTUALITES:

Improvement of Economic Environment of Corporations

Structure for Promotion of Investments in Production Sector:

A regional delegation shall be established with every DOM commissioner for the promotion of production activities and shall have the mission of assisting existing companies or those which are ready to be developed or established.

Information for Companies Concerning Settlement Conditions:

A continuous program will be implemented on the initiative of the secretary of state for informing metropolitan public and private corporations about the possibilities of settling in DOM. The new ADN [expansion unknown]-DOM, together with the links constituting local associations for development, will have a basic role to play in this regard.

Access of Corporations in Production Sector to Credit:

An "Investment Fund" is being established, which will be used to bolster government intervention. It will mainly provide a second guarantee for banking establishments which agree to take on additional risks and shall make investments in corporations.

Entities for assisting craftsmen will be set up at the trade association level to inform them of credit terms and possibilities and to help them prepare their credit records.

Financial establishments will be urged to participate in assistance programs for the financial management of PME [small and medium-size businesses].

Access of Companies to Capital Goods and Raw Materials:

Freight Shipping:

A study group has been assigned to recommend to the government by 30 September 1982 measures making it possible to find the best possible contribution of shipping service to the economic development of DOM.

Problems of Anticompetitive Practices:

Between now and the end of the year, comprehensive studies will be carried out to determine the extent of phenomena and to check, if necessary, the excessive effects of certain forms of competition. This study will include customs procedures, which will be simplified as much as possible.

Terms for Purchase of Supplies by Production Sector:

The crafts and construction sectors will be encouraged to create purchasing groups through technical assistance measures as well as through subsidies.

Role of Public Communities and Administrations as Purchasers:

Each commissioner of the republic shall appoint an official for public transactions for the purpose of making public markets more accessible to local production.

With the support of the union of public purchasing groups, the outside services of ministries will be urged to purchase their furnishings and supplies locally and, more generally, to orient public orders toward local production.

Sugar Economy

The agricultural economy of DOM must be considered as a whole, in particular because of the necessary reconversions. However, the sugar cane/rum industry requires special measures. Two funds shall therefore be created: a fund for guiding and supporting the agricultural economies of DOM and a fund for intervention in the sugar economy.

A single board of directors will guide, according to its recommendations, the management of these funds. Action will be carried out, according to need, by offices specialized according to products and, in the case of the sugar economy, by the FIRS [expansion unknown], whose powers shall be broadened.

A group of experts is assigned to analyze, before 30 September 1982, the cost price per ton of cane according to production structures and geographic areas and to reexamine certain provisions of the agreements linking sugar industries and the government.

The European Economic Community will be asked to change the national aid ceiling authorized by the community regulation concerning organization of the sugar market.

[Text] Pursuant to the conclusions of the proceedings of the interministerial commission established on 2 February (COMBARNOUS Commission), the government decreed on 22 July, during an interministerial committee meeting chaired by Mr Pierre Mauroy, a series of measures aimed at promoting production activities in DOM, improving the organization of the sugar economy, expediting land reform in Guadeloupe and developing Guiana's economic potential. Measures disclosed in the August issue of SEDETOM ACTUALITES:

II. Proposals for Development of Guiana

The adoption of all these proposals will lay the basis for a new relationship between the government and Guianese partners: elected officials and professionals, according to a pluriannual type of contract, but without claiming to cover all areas which concern Guiana.

In comparison to the "1975 Development Plan," which was sectoral (agriculture, forestry), the desire which this document wants to impart is that the development of Guiana is inconceivable sector by sector. It is through an overall grasp of development problems that this department, which has a great deal of potential, will be able to develop, that numerous productive jobs can be created and that, finally, the trade balance deficit can be reduced.

The proposals to be submitted to elected officials and professionals share this view, based first of all on the strength of what has already been achieved.

A significant effort in the area of training and supervision, primarily for Guianese youth, is being considered at the same time.

Finally, measures are proposed which should make it possible to attain better opportunities for the success of development, in particular by strengthening the influence of the cooperative sector.

The Strength of What Exists

The effort will concern production up the line: densification of existing agricultural zones in order to establish true agricultural centers along the coastline; modification of government agricultural aid by extension of loans and increasing certain subsidies; classification of the entire Guiana Saint-Laurent road as a priority, with the possibility of 35 tons authorized passage, which is essential for the forestry sector; access to preferred public financing for small-scale fishing.

The proposed measures are also intended to improve production down the line: accelerated completion of essential superstructures: lumber storage facilities at ports, icemaking machinery for small-scale fishing; greater responsibility for the cooperative sector, to which we shall return; national preference for proven advantage (public transactions in particular).

Effort Concerning Training and Supervision

The measures unanimously desired in this regard by elected officials and professionals have been considered as a whole: creation of a school for forestry and lumber trades, connected with the Suzini LEPA [expansion unknown]; financing of maritime vocational training in Cayenne; continuation of training in tourist trades, beyond CAP [expansion unknown] (hotel, restaurant business ...); greater participation of CNES [expansion unknown] in electronics training; greater supervision in all sectors, either by increasing available resources (Management Center, ISTPM [expansion unknown], administrations) or through the intervention of new partners (Compagnons du Tour de France).

These measures, of course, reflect the desire to see more young people participate in the development effort. But in order to be effective, they also require that everyone in Guiana consider the production sector as a priority and give up the idea of the "administrative or para-administrative tertiary sector, the key to all problems."

General Measures

Many other proposals are also being made, which are all aimed at better consistency of economic policy in Guiana.

They concern: either consistent structuring around the road, port or airport system or through Communal Improvement Plans (PAC) established in communes not covered by a POS [expansion unknown]; or sectoral consistency based on the progressive responsibility of professional partners. In this regard, it is every cooperative and every trade union which must be the preferred partners of elected officials and public authorities, indeed even of the CNES.

With regard to the industrial sector, which is in its infancy, a special effort will be made to reactivate several plants: for bricks, cement, and especially kaolin.

All of these proposals imply a significant financial effort on the part of the government, which has already been made, as well as on the part of the respective parties themselves: elected officials and professionals.

This implies two significant priority measures: the improvement of communal public finances, which is very urgent, and local reinvestment of locally held capital.

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CSO: 3219/2

NEW PREFECT SILBERZAHN INTERVIEWED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

Cayenne LA PRESSE DE GUYANE in French 1 Sep 82 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Claude Silberzahn, prefect of the Overseas Department of French Guiana, by Christophe Tezier; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] "One of my main missions is to set up the new institutions," the new prefect of the Guianese region, Mr Claude Silberzahn, said during the interview which he graciously granted to LA PRESSE DE GUYANE.

The first stage of this mission is the single-assembly plan: "A sensible response" to the extravagant situation of two assemblies coexisting in Guiana within the same territory.

The bill, which became law in a referendum, followed by "municipal" elections a little later, awaits the Guianese at the start of 1983. The prefect announced the tone: "reestablishment and reinforcement of democratic life in Guiana." In this regard, a comprehensive campaign of information and education will soon be launched.

The single elected assembly, the second adopted aspect of decentralization, will institute a new political-administrative "landscape" which should make possible Guiana's real development.

This economic expansion, together with social problems, will be the subject of a second interview.

Christophe Tezier: My first question will naturally be related to recent political events. Your appointment to Guiana occurred almost at the same time as the government's decision to establish the single assembly, followed a few days later by publication of the draft law. Is it possible to see a cause-and-effect relationship therein and have you come to Guiana, above all, to carry out decentralization?

Claude Silberzahn: Not exactly "above all," but certainly "first and foremost." One of my basic missions is, in fact, to set up under the best conditions the new institutions which DOM [Overseas Departments], and specifically Guiana, will have. I therefore clarified for elected officials, before and during the General Council meeting of 28 July, the legal and technical aspects of the text submitted to them and provided them with a somewhat personalized clarification of the government's intentions.

Christophe Tezier: In this regard, the legality of your intervention in this debate has been called into question by a political official, who has even announced that he would file an appeal. What is your position and exactly what is the legally authorized extent of intervention?

Claude Silberzahn: The appeal has been filed and it will therefore be up to the judge to rule on the legality of my intervention. As for me, there was obviously no doubt about that. Every elected official, here as elsewhere, and every citizen has always heard the government's representative explain and justify the government's policy to assemblies. In this connection, the law concerning decentralization has changed nothing. Its terms are clear and decree that "by agreement between the chairman of the General Council and the government's representative to the department, the latter shall be heard by the General Council."

I definitely received a letter from the chairman of the General Council inviting me to participate in the departmental assembly's meeting.

Christophe Tezier: Were you surprised by the result of the vote?

Claude Silberzahn: Absolutely not! I knew that there was a majority of elected officials in favor of the plan and that slogans originating elsewhere would not be strong enough to prevent that majority from expressing itself when the time came to vote. Thus this result absolutely does not have the historical aspect which some people wished to attribute to it.

The Single Assembly: "A Sensible Response"

Christophe Tezier: Some people see the start of a process of "layoffs" in this draft law. According to them, due to the lack of financial resources to contribute to real development of DOM, the government will make up for this lack by recommending this new political-administrative structure to elected officials. During this debate, did you affirm that there was no pitfall in this draft law?

Claude Silberzahn: Listen, the problems are already complex enough in themselves without further complicating them with making a case based on assumptions and not facts.

I therefore repeat: The single-assembly plan is simply a response to the extravagant situation of DOM, which had two assemblies, composed of practically the same men, meeting within the same territory to deal with the same problems. The single assembly is merely a sensible response to a situation which has merely been noted as well.

A specific situation must have a specific response. For decades, the Guianese have demanded solutions appropriate to their own problems. They reacted wisely when the government, on the institutional level, proposed a solution for them. Just as under the previous administration, a different government did so on behalf of Paris, wherein a single assembly had the dual role of Municipal Council and General Council. Just as the Corsicans were offered, some time ago, a

system appropriate for them. And all of that is part of decentralization, which normally involves the disappearance of the uniqueness of the institutional model for administration of local affairs.

Thus it seems absurd to speak of financial disengagement under these conditions.

Actually, the single assembly will overlap with the legal entities of the department and the region. Which clearly means that any change in legislation and resources to be made in the future by the departments and regions of the nation as a whole will automatically be carried out in Guiana. So where is the pitfall?

Guiana will remain a department; it will remain a region. It will simply have a single assembly, a consistent and effective means of managing this department and this superimposed region which is Guiana.

Christophe Tezier: In regard to the name of this assembly, elected officials have decided in favor of a slight change and have also said that they wanted it to have 31 elected officials.

Claude Silberzahn: Dr Lecante is right: "General and Regional Council" is not very elegant. But be careful! For the reason which I mentioned previously, care must be taken so that the idea that Guiana is and remains a department, is and remains a region, does not "disappear" as a result of vocabulary!

For example: The second aspect of the law on decentralization will be debated in parliament next year: and it specifically stipulates that with any transfer of national jurisdiction to the region or the department, there will be a corresponding transfer of resources required for its implementation.

Thus if the doctrine that Guiana is and remains a department and a region is not clearly formulated or articulated, won't some people have a tendency to say that perhaps, after all, this principle would not apply in its case ...?

As for the number of council members, I don't know the exact origin of the figure of 31. I think I heard it said that since Cayenne had 31 municipal councilors, all of Guiana could not have any less!

Actually, according to the new draft law to be voted on in the municipal elections, Cayenne will have 39 council members

As for me, I believe that an assembly must have a sufficient number of members, which is a prerequisite for being able to derive a majority therefrom more easily, and that a figure between 30 and 40 seems quite reasonable to me.

Educational Campaign Prior to Elections

Christophe Tezier: Whatever the case, this draft law will certainly be adopted by parliament in its next session. The elections are scheduled for February. A month later, the voters will go back to the polls for the "municipal" elections.

What measures do you plan to take to prevent Guiana from reliving the events of last April?

Claude Silberzahn: That is a serious question, since it involves, both domestically and abroad, the credibility of democratic life in Guiana. And I will strive to see that it is reestablished and then reinforced.

First, by an educational program: Beginning this fall, we will launch a campaign concerning the first electoral operation, which has just begun and which is the revision of election rolls. This will consist of clearly informing all citizens of this department and all its officials, both elected and socioprofessional, of what the revision of election rolls entails, what are each one's rights and, I may say, basically, their duties.

We will continue this educational program on the level of voting operations themselves, that is, the citizen's visit to the polls, his entrance into the polling booth, verification of his identity and his registration on the rolls.

And we will not neglect vote counting operations. For all of that, we will hold working sessions with the chairmen of polling places, assistants, roll representatives

This educational campaign will be combined with verification of legality and naturally the establishment of a system for maintaining public order, which is my own responsibility, utilizing all the necessary means.

But I am convinced that all of the representatives of Guiana's various political factions will conduct themselves in such a way that the use of such means will not be necessary. The honor of our department, and thus that of its political officials, is at stake.

A New Political-Administrative "Landscape"

Christophe Tezier: Following the elections for the single assembly, will the political and administrative "landscape" be changed profoundly?

Claude Silberzahn: Considerably! But starting now, the prevailing ambiguities in Guiana concerning this matter must be eliminated. At that time, there will be an authority arising from the local popular will and an authority arising from the national popular will, side by side. Simply stated, a president and a commissioner of the republic, each with his own territory.

The president, who will be elected by the assembly, will be its executive: With his own departments and those of the government that will have been placed at his disposal, he will handle the adoption and implementation of the budgets of the region and the department, or an amount of approximately 340 million francs. And he will exercise the current powers of the department and the region.

The prefect, the commissioner of the republic, in turn will be the vigilant guardian of respect for law and public order. He will retain authority over government departments (except in the case of tasks which they will carry out for the single assembly) and the financial resources required to implement

government policy within the jurisdictions, unchanged for the time being, of the various levels of responsibility.

Coordination of the actions of the central government and local government will not be a slight task It will obviously require a climate of open cooperation. And, I dare say, a friendly one, uniting the various protagonists of this new process, which will be on a contractual basis. We will come back to this when we explain, prior to the elections, to the single assembly what its institutional stake will be.

And again later on, when the second aspect of the law on decentralization is debated in parliament; this second aspect will concern the new distribution of powers among the government, regions, departments and communes.

But until this second stage, a new "deal" will be dealt. It will be up to the Guianese to figure out how to play it and to show that they can take full responsibility for a significant share of their future.

Christophe Tezier: You give the impression, even beyond the government's directives, of being personally committed to this affair! Is this true?

Claude Silberzahn: This is not just an affair. It is much more than that. Decentralization is an opportunity for Guiana, as for each DOM. I'll let you in on a secret: It is impossible to be an Alsatian, like myself, with a protestant background and ethics, without basically supporting the principle of never assigning to a larger entity what can be done by a smaller one And without being convinced that, above all, everyone's unique features should be pursued, since collective wealth is only the result of everyone's specific features. Don't forget that--as Denis de Rougemont recently recalled--among Calvinists, the church is, in practical terms, a federation of parishes

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CSO: 3219/1

BRIEFS

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LOAN EVALUATION--St Georges, Grenada, 10 Nov, CANA--
A 10-member mission from the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has ended a one-week assignment here evaluating a proposed 2.6 million (U.S.) dollar fisheries project, a government statement said today. The project, to be funded by the Grenada Government, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Venezuelan Investment Fund (VIF), is slated to get going early in the new year. While here, the team held discussions with officials in the ministries of fisheries and planning, the national commercial bank and fish vendors. They also visited the fisheries centres in four districts--Sauteurs, Gouyave, Carenage and Melville Street. Head of the CDB mission, Errol Maynard, said the centres will be upgraded to provide for the proper marketing and processing of fish. The fisheries centres in Sauteurs and Gouyave are to get cold storage facilities, he added. The project is expected to bring benefits to roughly 400 Grenadian fishermen. The team will submit a report to government on their findings and recommendations shortly, the government statement said. [Text] [FL101722 Bridgetown CANA In English 1642 GMT 10 Nov 82]

CAO: 3298/1138

U.S. AMBASSADOR'S AMERINDIAN VILLAGE VISIT STOPPED

FL121655 Bridgetown CANA in English 1520 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Nov 12, CANA--The Guyana government says United States ambassador to Guyana, Gerald Thomas, his wife and a senior official of the embassy here were recently prevented by local security personnel from visiting an Amerindian village in the country's wooded interior because they had not first obtained the required official permit.

Under legislation dating back to colonial times, and designed for the protection of indigenous communities, all non-Amerindians are required to obtain permits from the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Interior Department before visiting Amerindian areas.

A spokesman for the protocol section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that security precautions in the area, part of the 83,000 miles of Guyana territory claimed by neighbouring Venezuela in their border dispute, have been tightened recently and that diplomats in the last three months had been told that they would need permits to visit the area.

"A request by the U.S. Embassy for the trip was made two days before the scheduled departure, but the party left Georgetown before the request had been processed and the permit issued," he said.

The official added that neither government has taken any further action on the issue. The U.S. Embassy declined to comment on the incident.

The visit to the Rupununi district was cut short and the party, which included the embassy's second secretary, Tom Sonandres, returned to Georgetown the same day.

It was the penultimate day of a six-day stay in the area as guests of the Rupununi Livestock Producers Association.

The American party was about to travel to Yupukari, an Amerindian village, to visit an Anglican church pastoral training centre, built in part by U.S. donations, when a group of six army and police officers arrived and requested to see the permits to visit the area.

When none could be produced the Americans were told that they could not proceed into the settlement.

CSO: 3298/1141

ARMY REINFORCES BORDER WITH EL SALVADOR

Army Communique

PA111237 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0334 GMT 11 Nov 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 10 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Army announced today that it has reinforced the Honduran border with El Salvador with both troops and artillery.

A communique issued tonight by the armed forces public relations office stated that President Roberto Suazo Cordova is aware of and has approved this reinforcement operation.

The army stated that it notified the citizens of the mobilization of a fairly large number of troops, as a logical security measure for any military movement.

The communique also noted that the border was reinforced because of reports that the Salvadoran armed forces are planning a series of mop-up and combat operations against guerrilla units that are currently holding several towns on the border with Honduras.

The Honduran armed forces' communique stressed that "the Honduran troops' mission will be to protect the integrity and sovereignty of our territory from actions by either the guerrillas or the Salvadoran army."

Troop Mobilization

PA101555 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Excerpts] TIEMPO newspaper in San Pedro Sula has reported the mobilization of troops in the western sector of the country, specifically towards the border with El Salvador.

Here is the report by Radio San Pedro correspondent Alfonso Anariba Calix:

[begin relay] Members of different Honduran military units were mobilized by land yesterday towards the border region with El Salvador. Approximately 50 trucks and soldiers from the special tactical group [agrupamiento tactico especial--ATE], the 3d Infantry Battalion from San Pedro Sula and the

2d Artillery Battalion passed through Santa Rosa de Copan at 0445. They carried 106-mm recoilless rifles and other heavy weapons. The contingent included a convoy of 11 commando-type trucks. Five of these trucks passed by a few minutes after 1600 [as heard].

It was also confirmed that officers in charge of the mobilization met at the operations center [Casa de Guerra] of the 12th Infantry Battalion in Santa Rosa de Copan with battalion commander Col Luis Alonso Cardona.

During the afternoon, an officer from the 12th Infantry Battalion said that the contingent was on its way to relieve the military units stationed at the border with El Salvador, an operation that takes place every 3 months.

Inquiries were later made in Tegucigalpa at the armed forces public relations office. An officer said he had no information about this, but promised to investigate and provide information later. However, the promised information never came, even though the news media waited expectantly. [end relay]

CSO: 3248/226

FUTH CRITICIZES LIBERAL GOVERNMENT

PA110009 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Nov 82 p 9

[Letter dated October 1982 placed as a paid advertisement by the United Federation of Workers of Honduras]

[Text] Letter to the president of the republic, to the National Congress and to private enterprise.

We would like to point out the following: Since the installation of the liberal government there have been experiments with antipopular solutions to the problems affecting the Honduran people. There has been a promise to put an end to administrative corruption, yet corruption scandals continue. It was said the "new government" would carry out an administrative austerity plan that would save millions of lempiras for the country, yet the results of this plan have been massive dismissals of humble workers and the hiring of political cronies at wages twice those of the dismissed persons. Guarantees for popular organizations were promised, yet practice shows that the liberal government not only tries to ignore representative organizations like FUTH [Honduran Teachers Unity Front], FUNACAMH [Honduran National Peasant Unity Front] student organizations and our United Federation of Workers of Honduras [FUTH], but also keeps all doors closed to them, when we all know that national problems like unemployment, hunger, the housing deficit, health problems and the possibilities of a war on our borders should be of concern to the government and the organized sectors.

The refusal of the government to negotiate a solution to the differences between Nicaragua and Honduras is not a good attitude, and it appears that our government wants to solve our serious internal problems through a military conflict with that neighboring country. The working class is aware that a war could only benefit the U.S. rulers, since its sole purpose would be to defend U.S. interests in the area, and definitely not those of the nation, least of all those sectors that for over a century have suffered oppression and exploitation. A war would bring us incalculable economic, social and political consequences that we would all regret.

Likewise, we are concerned over the increase in repression. It can be said that the constitution has been rendered ineffective and of no value by the repression of protest rallies by the workers, teachers and other popular sectors. Every day,

private homes are searched late at night. Labor leaders are arrested without an explanation, and despite evidence to that effect their arrests are denied. In the worst cases, (already common in Honduras) leaders of various organizations are kidnapped and murdered.

We do not know where they are taking us, or if you, deputies and businessmen, are involved in these dangerous games. In January 1982, while crossing the Nicaraguan border to Honduras, labor leader Enrique Lopez was arrested. He worked for Envases Industriales Hondureños. His family has tried to learn his whereabouts, but the security corps, as usual, claims to know nothing. Felix Martínez of Sitraunah [Union of Workers of the National Autonomous University of Honduras] was arrested on 17 August and found dead on 28 August. Samuel Lopez was arrested and is still missing. German Lopez, of the Road Workers Union, was also arrested and to date his release has been denied. Eduardo Lanza of FEUH [Honduran Federation of University Students], has not been released or brought to trial despite requests to this effect. Andronico Espinal was arrested early this month. He is connected with the Honduran agrarian process and is very well known among the national peasantry. His family has received answers similar to the others.

On 21 October the workers' demonstration in Tegucigalpa was brutally repressed and over 200 demonstrators were arrested and tortured, including labor, teacher and student leaders. Among them were Carlos H. Reyes, leader of our federation. His hands and feet were bound and he was tortured to the extent of suffering a nosebleed. He was kicked and his bonds tightened so that they bit into his skin. Similar treatment was given to Angel Antonio Escobar, Pio Alvarez, Jose Alfredo Flores, Alduvin Diaz and other prisoners. And the repression continues. A few days ago, Mariano Sanchez and Eusebio Reyes, of the UNCAH [National Union of Authentic Peasants of Honduras] and FUNACAMH were arrested. Mariano Sanchez' relatives said that after his arrest he was "blessed" with kicks and beatings; meanwhile the authorities repeat the same tune, that they do not have them and that they should be sought somewhere else. Again there are tears and desperation by those concerned over the fate of their dear ones.

Democracy means respect for union and democratic freedoms. It means respect for the lives and physical safety of the people. It means having a job, food, housing, health and land for the men who work it. Democracy cannot exist where the rights of culture, of public meeting and of expression of ideas are violated.

It is time to stop violence through a program designed to get the country out of its economic dependence. Peace cannot be achieved with more repression; on the contrary, repression engenders violence, and there is the risk that those sectors that today are the victims of repression and who have no access to civic formulas to solve their problems may choose other means. This is what those ruling the country refuse to see. If we want to save the country from social upheaval, let us stop the current abuse of power.

[Dated] October 1982

[Signed] Unified Federation of Workers of Honduras, "FUTH"

OFFICIAL STRESSES ROLE OF U.S. AID IN REFORM

PA101620 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Ubodoro Arriaga, executive director of the National Agrarian Institute [INA], reported to the president today about his recent visit to Washington, where he participated in a conference on elections and democracy. Arriaga also took advantage of this trip to negotiate loans to implement the country's agrarian reform. Let us listen to his statement:

[begin Arriaga recording] I took advantage of certain free moments to contact aid institutions such as AID and the IDB. These were very fruitful contacts because the INA, with the budget it has, cannot implement agrarian reform. We have to resort to foreign aid as the only way to carry out development projects and to restrain a little bit the peasant pressure that is (?bothering) the Honduran democratic system. [end recording]

[Question] How will the peasant problem be solved? The peasants claim that INA gives them land, but not financing or the means to develop their products.

[begin Arriaga recording] Well, they are very right about that. We are not doing much by just giving them land. With mere land they cannot improve their status and cannot help the country's general production. It is necessary to present development programs to them and give them [words indistinct] so that they can get credits and feel [words indistinct] land. It is also necessary to give them more technical assistance and also more active training. Consequently, we must deliver land and carry out small projects which they can develop based on their own experience. They must be given more practical and basic training to the extent of their own resources.

[Question] How is the program of small projects going?

[Answer] We have coordinated it as a fundamental basis of INA's agrarian policy in this country. We cannot really say that small projects are a counterproposal to big projects, but we have said that a million projects are just as important as one million-dollar project, because small projects do reach the peasants. Centralized development efforts, such as Aguan and (Sur), benefit only a small area and have done very little for the peasants. Therefore, there is still poverty in the countryside and big peasant problems still exist, and we must move to a new agrarian development model. [end recording]

[Question] Could we say that the Bajo Aguan project has failed, since it has not benefited many peasants?

[begin Arriaga recording] Not exactly, because this project has benefited approximately 13 percent of the peasant class. This project has been functioning for the past 10 years. This 13 percent has contributed, as we have said on past occasions, to the national development of the peasants. But we have been thinking that we must move on to something that will have greater impact on the peasant class. [end recording]

CSO: 3248/227

NAVY CANCELS REGISTRY OF 500 MERCHANT SHIPS

PA092141 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 8 Nov 82 p 2

[Press release issued by the Public Relations Office of the Honduran Navy, dated November 1982]

[Text] The Honduran Naval Forces feel dutybound to respond to certain reports that have been circulated in some of the media implicating the naval forces in the recruitment of sailors for service in the Merchant Marine.

The naval forces assumed control of the Honduran Merchant Marine office in 1977, and since then has been reorganizing it in the technical, fiscal, administrative and operational areas, because over 2,000 ships have been plying the world's seas under the Honduran flag.

In general, these boats, of varied tonnage, used and abused the national flag by indulging in all kinds of illegal trafficking, compromising Honduras' good name, evading payment of taxes to the state and frequently taking actions that jeopardized national security.

The offices in charge of controlling the Merchant Marine lacked adequate and effective procedures for managing the merchant fleet. There was also a lack of qualified, capable personnel to control maritime activities, and there was abuse and monopoly in the registry of boats of all tonnage by certain lawyers in the republic.

The naval forces, in an effort to improve the system, have had to take drastic measures such as canceling the registry of almost 500 ships from which there have been no reports for over 25 years. At present, no boat can register in Honduras or use the nation's flag until there has been an exhaustive investigation of the company or person requesting registry. This information is obtained from our consuls abroad, from marine authorities in the country of origin of the applicant and from specialized international organizations.

In addition, we are collecting overdue taxes from some ships, and there has been an increase of over 100 percent in income from such sources. Because the Merchant Marine Law was issued 40 years ago, it does not meet present needs. Therefore, naval forces headquarters is drafting a bill to be presented, in the near future, for the consideration of the executive branch, through armed forces headquarters, and later sent to the National Congress.

The navy wishes to state clearly that it is in no way involved with and does not participate in any way in the hiring of local sailors to serve in the Merchant Marine, since it is not empowered to do so by law. For this there are the Labor Ministry, labor unions, seamen's organizations, and at times particular individuals whom we suppose are authorized for this task.

Navy headquarters believes that a law or regulation should be drafted to regulate the hiring of Honduran seamen in order to protect the rights of seamen, who are often exploited and deceived by immoral individuals.

The Honduran Navy gives its thanks for all the constructive cooperation and criticism that comes from the people and the media and that are directed toward the solution of problems within the navy's purview.

CSO: 3248/227

BRIEFS

GUERRILLAS CRITICIZE GOVERNMENT--Tegucigalpa, 9 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--The Lorenzo Zelaya People's Revolutionary Forces [FPR] guerrilla group celebrated its second anniversary here today by criticizing the Honduran Government and armed forces. In a communique distributed to the press, the guerrillas stated that the economic policy of liberal President Roberto Suazo Cordova's administration has failed. Suazo Cordova took office in January. They also say that "he has not adopted a single measure to benefit the people." The guerrillas complain about the increase in prices of basic products and services, in addition to new taxes. The document also protests the negotiations between the Honduran Government and the IMF, which it accuses of tying up the country's credit "for generations." Likewise, the guerrillas reject negotiations between the government and the U.S. Transnational Rosario Mining Company, which obtained tax exemptions under the pretext that losses would possibly force it to close its operations in the country. The guerrillas state that the army plays the role of "overseer and guardian of U.S. interests in Central America," and accuses it of trying to "embark our people on an interventionist and war adventure" against Nicaragua. In their communique, the guerrillas reject the creation of "civil defense committees" and reiterate their decision to create a revolutionary people's government here that will rescue "the economic independence and political sovereignty" of the nation. [Text] [PA092127 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1752 GMT 9 Nov 82]

TRADE WITH ARGENTINA--An Argentine trade mission and Honduran economy officials will sign a document this afternoon containing the lists of products that are subject to bilateral trade. Honduran economy officials indicated that the negotiations on the subject, which ended yesterday, produced positive results. Foreign trade director Roberto Alvarado said that the document that is to be signed today will include wood byproducts, lobster and shrimp among the products that Honduras can export to Argentina. [PA062210 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 5 Nov 82 p 3 PA]

MILITARY SERVICE BILL--We want to report to the people of Honduras that the bill on obligatory military service has already been presented to the National Congress. This was the bill that congress was waiting for before ending the sessions for this year, that is, before ending the present legislative period. The bill regarding the obligatory military service has 120 articles and 4 chapters. The obligatory military service includes all those between the ages of 18 and 30; anyone above the age of 30 will be exempted from this service. It is possible that the National Congress will discuss this bill on obligatory military service [words indistinct]. The president of the congress will have to decide whether this bill will be (discussed now) or left for the next legislative period. However, this will have to be decided by the president of the congress and the board of directors. They will decide whether it will or will not be discussed during this legislative period. [Text] [PA100517 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Nov 82]

CSO: 3248/227

WPJ CHARGES U.S. TO USE CARICOM TO OUST GRENADA

FL120200 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 11 Nov 82

[Text] As the Jamaica Government gears up to host the most-publicized CARICOM heads of government summit, there is news of increased efforts by the U.S. administration to use the forum as a platform against Grenada.

The Workers Party of Jamaica [WPJ] today disclosed information it had received that the Reagan administration is planning to send representatives to the CARICOM meetings in a bid to pressure the participating governments to expel Grenada. The WPJ called on the Seaga regime to deny that this information was correct. (Joan Walsh) reports.

[Begin (Walsh) recording] In a news release, the WPJ denounced the unprecedented political interference in the internal affairs of countries of the region and called on all the forces of progress and international justice in the region [words indistinct]. The WPJ said it was no secret that the American government had been attacking Grenada (?through) the means of economic discrimination and threats of military invasion aimed at turning back the country's development.

The WPJ further says that Reagan's administration had been unable to accomplish this [word indistinct] because the Grenada revolution had rejected democracy for the rich in favor of democracy for the workers, [words indistinct] and farmers of Grenada.

The WPJ said it was the duty of progressive and patriotic West Indians to denounce any U.S. interference at the CARICOM meetings and asked every progressive and patriotic Jamaican in particular to act for the defense of revolutionary Grenada by giving Prime Minister Maurice Bishop a cordial welcome when he comes to Jamaica.

That was (Joan Walsh) reporting from the Jamaican capital of Kingston.

CSO: 3298/1134

NEWSPAPER STRIKES BLOW FOR PRESS FREEDOM

FL051937 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 1 Nov 82 p 8

[Editorial: "For a Free Press"]

[Text] Since mid-September the leaders of the leftist Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement (ACLM) declared that their weekly newspaper, THE OUTLET, had had its paper's registration approved, and it was therefore able to publish legally.

The leader, Mr. Tim Hector, said that this followed pressure from various organizations, the media and the church. He did not list the organizations, but taking pride of place was the Caribbean Publishing and Broadcasting Association [CPBA] headed by THE GLEANER's Oliver Clarke and which organization has so often been pilloried by leftist organizations in Jamaica and elsewhere for its strong stand on freedom of the press in the region.

In this case the paper concerned was frankly very left wing and with very little support, according to the last elections in Antigua in that country. But it was a question of a principle of freedom of the press at stake.

The CPBA protested by means of statements and letters to the government, but THE GLEANER also sent one of its reporters to Antigua to report on the whole sordid matter. What happened in effect is that THE OUTLET had been publishing for years but did not comply with the strict provisions of the law, and therefore the government of Vere Bird was perfectly within its rights to insist that this be done, but the manner of its doing was found to be reprehensible. We are glad that the government was relented.

In the meantime THE OUTLET is still being tried before the courts for its technical infringement of the law. This is a matter for the courts of Antigua, but what is pleasing is that the act of registration has now been approved and it is being published. This is a blow for freedom of the press in the Caribbean. We wish that the reaction of the Bird government to the protest of the Caribbean could be followed and emulated by the Bishop government in Grenada where the independent press has been destroyed and all protestations and requests have been ignored by Mr Bishop and his colleagues.

CSO: 3298/1134

BRIEFS

BANANA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT--Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga, representing the Jamaican government; Marshall Hall, representing the Jamaica Banana Producers Association [JBPA]; and Emilio Arango, representing the United Brands Company, have signed a \$30-million banana development project at Jamaica House. As a first step toward the restoration of the banana industry, 2,000 acres of prime land in the eastern section of the island are to be brought under cultivation to produce top-quality fruit for the export market. A new company, Eastern Estate Limited, will operate the project. The Jamaican government will own 70 percent, the JBPA 20 percent and United Brands 10 percent. Financing of the project will be provided by the Commonwealth Development Corporation [CDC] \$15 million; local sources \$5 million; the Jamaican government \$7 million; the JBPA \$2 million; and United Brands \$1 million and the needed technical expertise. The CDC loan is repayable over a 10-year period, with a 5-year grace period, at a yearly interest rate of 11.5 percent. The target is to produce 30,000 metric tons of bananas annually for the United Kingdom market. [FL031410 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Oct 82 p 1 FL]

GOVERNMENT BUYS MONTEGO COMPLEX--Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 1, CANA--The Jamaica Government has concluded negotiations on the purchase of the Montego Freeport complex in north western Jamaica. Government took over the complex in July to save the jobs of 700 people when the former owners decided to put the company into receivership. Prime Minister Edward Seaga said the purchase price was 3.3 million dollars (one JCA dollar; 56 cents U.S.), but Montego Freeport owes the government some 600,000 dollars in taxes. The Prudential Group of the United States had owned majority of Montego Freeport, which operates a luxury hotel, a deepwater port as well as development lands in the city of Montego Bay. But in July it announced it was putting the company into receivership after a quarrel with the Central Bank over the amount of money a foreign company is allowed to borrow to carry on its business locally. [Text] [FL022051 Bridgetown CANA in English 1522 GMT 2 Nov 82 FL]

LOME CONVENTION GRANT--The commissioner for European communities has approved a further grant of \$7.6 million for Jamaica for a training program for public sector employees. The grant was approved late last

night and prior to that a provisional sum of \$400,000 had been granted for the program, making the total \$8 million. The grant, under the Lome Convention, is for a training program for the years 1981-1984. [Excerpt] [FL110249 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 Nov 82 FL]

CSO: 3298/1134

BRIEFS

STRIKES AVERTED--Mexico City, 10 Nov (NOTIMEX)--Approximately 2,000 strikes have been avoided in the states of Mexico and Neuvo Leon, the country's most important industrial areas. The Labor Secretariat reported that the workers of 3,300 companies were called out on strike by Fidel Velazquez, principal leader of Confederation of Mexican Workers [CTM]. Velazquez told all of the country's labor unions to demand 50 percent increases. In Mexico state Agustin Aguilar, the president of Conciliation Board (established by the Labor Secretariat to reconcile the interests between the workers and their employers), said that in no case were the increases higher than 15 percent because these were kept in line with the capacity of each company. The director of conciliation and arbitration in Neuvo Leon state reported that 1,100 strikes had been averted, of the 1,600 promoted by the unions. In this state the director of the employer's center, Luis Enrique Grajeda, said that the Neuvo Leon investors refused to grant the emergency increases demanded by the CTM and that the agreements reached corresponded to the renewal of the collective contracts that should have been signed last March. The increases in this state did not exceed 30 percent, which corresponds to 50 pesos per day over the minimum wage. Finally, the sources said that the remainder of the strikes will be solved in the next few days to prevent a disruption of Neuvo Leon's production capacity. [Text] [FL101847 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1630 GMT 10 Nov 82]

CASTANEDA RECEIVES AMBASSADORS' CREDENTIALS--Mexico City, 10 Nov (NOTIMEX)--Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda today received the credentials of the new ambassadors to Mexico from Thailand: Budhi Chuchon; Jordan: 'Abd al-Hadi al-Majali; Gambia: Lamin Abdou M'bye; Barbados: Charles A.T. Skeet; and Bangladesh: Humayun Rashid Choudhury. The ambassadors will present their credentials to President Jose Lopez Portillo tomorrow at the official residence of the Los Pinos. [FL110125 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2100 GMT 10 Nov 82 FL]

PRESIDENT LAUNCHES NEW SHIP--Obrego City, Sonora, 10 Nov (NOTIMEX)--President Jose Lopez Portillo today launched the ship "Atalahuac" (God of the Sea), the first 22,000 ton capacity grain cargo ship built in Mexico. The cargo ship, which will help stop the flight of capital in the freight business, has a height of 20 meters, six cargo holds, a capacity larger than 22,000 (?trailers) [trailes] and the deck can accommodate the soccer field of Azteca Stadium. [Excerpt] [FL110125 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2055 GMT 10 Nov 82 FL]

SANDINO FRONT COMMENTS ON 'NEWSWEEK' ARTICLE

PA101640 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK recently published a report which was considered sensational. Written in an impersonal, objective fashion, the article offers a truly somber but perhaps, by this time, obsolete view of the area, where military interventions and governments run by imperial embassies are a nightmare of the past.

Unfortunately, for our sovereignty, the study of U.S. pre-intervention published by NEWSWEEK reinforces our claims and shows that the whims and lack of political vision and revolutionary mystique of the nine members of the so-called FSLN national leadership are to blame for the Soviet occupation of our country and the U.S. plots against our sovereignty.

The Sandino Revolutionary Front [FRS] is not surprised by this article, since we have already said, through Commander Eden Pastora, that the nine are to blame for having placed the Nicaraguan conflict on the East-West negotiating table. On another occasion we noted that the powers want to test their might, their weapons and their interventionist strategies in Nicaragua.

We have carefully analyzed our country's problem. We who make up the FRS political working team, have maintained permanent contact with our country's political activities.

Our Nicaragua continues to be threatened with falling under the control of a rightist militarism which is as bloodthirsty and ominous as the present leftist totalitarianism. These two alternatives are being promoted every day in our country, using every resource of electronics available to the two daily newspapers to give the impression that Nicaragua has only two alternatives: a return to the past of the Somozist guardsmen, or the present dictatorial regime of the nine. Both alternatives are encouraged by the two imperialisms. The Russians want to keep the nine in power, while the United States wants to bring the national guard back to power.

Meanwhile, the democratic forces are harassed by the left and right, while the nationalists and anti-imperialists struggle to maintain a dignified position in the face of the conflict in our unfortunate Nicaragua. NEWSWEEK does well in repeating the phrase of a European observer who said the United States is supporting the only mistaken alternative, the truly depraved. We would add that the Soviets are supporting the other truly depraved alternative, that of the nine members of the group of traitors. East and West are both after Nicaragua.

The struggle of the FRS is the struggle of the Nicaraguans to make our own revolution, respected not for its excessive arming, but for its true nonalignment and moral authority to speak before the two imperialisms. We want a Nicaragua that cannot be accused of supporting the Russians to fight the North Americans or vice versa.

There is another alternative: that of a democratic, pluralistic and anti-imperialistic revolution; of the honest men of Nicaragua who hate hatred and love for people's lightheartedness. The terror of the left and the right is trying to drown that joy; but they will fail in their attempt because we Nicaraguans are strengthened by the ideals of Sandino and Ruben Dario.

CSO: 3248/228

TIRADO LOPEZ ADDRESSES LABOR CONFERENCE

PA101935 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Text] The special meeting of the Latin American Workers Permanent Congress for Trade Union Unity [CPUSTAL] opened in the Cesar Augusto Silva Conventions Center in Managua today with delegations from 26 countries in attendance. The CPUSTAL meeting was opened by Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez and Dennis Melendez, assistant secretary of the Sandinist Workers Federation.

(Miguel Antonio Caro), CPUSTAL executive secretary, said that the event would be held in honor of the Sandinist people's revolution. He said that if the yankee imperialists attack Cuba, Nicaragua or another fraternal people, they will be met by determined fighting by the workers of the continent.

Companero (Caro) vigorously condemned the warlike policy of U.S. imperialism and said that he holds it responsible for whatever may occur in Nicaragua and Central America. He said that the Latin American working class is now rising up as a single fist in defense of its class interests, and the workers see in Nicaragua an example of the fact that freedom can be won through tenacious and unyielding struggle.

It is necessary for the working class and, consequently, the revolutionary forces to unite and make use of the theoretical and ideological instruments of their class to confront imperialism and defeat its aggressive plans, Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez said.

Tirado Lopez opened the special CPUSTAL meeting, at which he urged the working class to unite all their efforts in support of revolutionary concepts in order to promote the movement to socialism.

Tirado Lopez emphasized that within the working class there should be more than just lamentation and denunciation of the misery in which Latin American workers live; instead the revolutionary concept should be used to advance the revolution. He added that the Sandinist people's revolution applies guidelines of peace, progress and peaceful coexistence and that at present, the efforts of the Nicaraguan revolution are directed toward those goals. He noted that U.S. imperialism is besieging the Sandinist revolution through the counterrevolutionary bands and certain Central American countries that lend themselves to the imperialist game.

WHEELOCK ON BANANA SALES TO U.S. MARKET

PA092315 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Nov 82

[Text] Nicaragua has been able to open a new market for the sale of bananas less than 15 days after the Transnational Standard Fruit Company decided to suspend its operations in the country. Commander Jaime Wheelock, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, and Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca made the announcement yesterday during a tour of the Corinto port installations. They said that next week 125,000 boxes of bananas will be shipped to the U.S. west coast. Minister Wheelock said that Standard Fruit's strategy has been defeated because Nicaragua will sell the fruit at a price that is higher than the \$4.30 a case that the transnational company was imposing, without including the 25 cents a case that the company was charging for technical assistance and 50 cents a case for an alleged debt. However, Wheelock warned that the situation has not been solved with the new market since Standard Fruit and other monopolies will try to eliminate the Nicaraguan fruit from competition in the market,

As a result of Standard Fruit's incorrect and illegal attitude in withdrawing from the country, the revolutionary government decided that all its interests will be taken over by the state.

The agricultural development minister said that the associations in the banana program and the 22 production units will be administered by the Nicaraguan Government.

Wheelock said that Standard Fruit's withdrawal from Nicaragua is another step toward the country's economic independence. Accompanied by Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca, Wheelock yesterday toured the Corinto port enterprise. They announced that Nicaragua has obtained a new banana market, indicating that 17 independent U.S. companies will be the buyers. In other times, there has been talk of a banana war, but we do not want that war. We are interested in placing our production in markets, he added. Here is Minister Jaime Wheelock's statement:

[begin recording] The banana program in the West has become a truly Nicaraguan program. It has become an independent program that we hope can vigorously develop as we open new international markets. Our experience has been that each time there has been difficulty or a crisis situation, Nicaragua has come out victorious.

We have also experienced a crisis of foreign exchange. This country cannot be stopped. The workers, the working class and the technicians find creative ways through their own initiative and ability to overcome the difficulties and find answers to any problem.

This is also true in this case. Although many skeptics thought that if the Standard Fruit left the banana plantations would be ruined, the fact is that as the Standard Fruit is withdrawing the plantations are in better condition. If we maintain the technical assistance to these plantations [words indistinct]. We have already given a reply to the marketing problem. We are completely sure that we are going to be successful and that we are going to be better off than before. We will be strengthened economically and politically, and we will be making an important advance in developing the country toward economic independence. [end recording]

The banana program, which comprises 4,000 manzanas of plantations, has a capacity to produce 6 million boxes and produces \$24 million a year for the country. Foreign Trade Minister Cuenca spoke on the new marketing and price of the product:

[begin recording] [words indistinct] shipments until the end of December. The prices will be determined by the amount of the fruit reaching the U.S. market at the moment that the ships with our fruit arrive. As the commander said, we hope to obtain a price that will at least cover our operating costs. In any case, it is a favorable price for Nicaragua because from any viewpoint we are profiting from the operation. The price will be determined once the bananas arrive. I would rather not say what that price will be, because it would just be conjecture since we have to wait until the fruit arrives. Several companies are going to be buying the fruit. There are about 17 independent marketing companies on the U.S. Pacific Coast. This is being done through a company that is helping us in this operation. [end recording]

CSO: 3248/228

BRIEFS

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES ATTACK--A group of approximately 120 men who were part of a counterrevolutionary military unit attacked the border post of Miquilse, in Madrid Department, at approximately 1300 yesterday. The new counterrevolutionary attack was launched from two points in Honduras and, as usual, the enemies of our process enjoyed the support of Honduran troops. It was determined that the attackers came from the (Sacamuga) camp, 2 km from the borderline. The counter-revolutionary group used 80-mm mortars, M-60 machineguns, rockets and Fal rifles in this attack. The firing, which lasted approximately 2 hours, produced no casualties among our border guardsmen. [Text] [PA111446 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Nov 82]

WHEELLOCK STATEMENT--The United States could completely wipe out our country, just as it did with the cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Thus we are forced to maintain a vigilant attitude against any aggression, Commander Jaime Wheelock, minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, yesterday told a delegation of U.S. intellectuals visiting our country. Wheelock told the visitors about the dangers of a foreign aggression against Nicaragua, affirming that this defensive stand by the Nicaraguan people does not entail any feelings against the U.S. people. The revolutionary leader added that in the face of the current dangers in Central America, inter-American relations are at stake. He said finally that the United States must learn to maintain relations with independent and sovereign nations. [Text] [PA101930 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Nov 82]

PANAMA PEACE CONTRIBUTION--Managua, 10 Nov (ACAN-EFE)--In the opinion of the Sandinist press, the Panamanian Government is contributing to peace in Central America, which is threatened by a climate of tension on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border. An editorial in today's BARRICADA, the official FSLN organ, says that the brief unannounced stopover by President Ricardo De La Espriella in Managua on Monday "confirms the Panamanian position of rejecting an aggression against Nicaragua." The editorial adds that De La Espriella's visit allowed Panama to stress its support for a negotiated solution to the Central American situation according to the points proposed by Mexico and Venezuela and backed by France and Sweden. The Panamanian position, according to the Managua paper, contrasts with "the confirmed complicity of the Honduran military elite in the aggression financed by the United States and the not very convincing civilian authority (in Honduras) which make this contradiction. [sentence as received] BARRICADA

adds that "clear positions like that one (of Panama) stimulate trust in the solidarity of the brother countries to bring detente, peace and the desired conciliation to the region." De La Espriella met with junta coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega at Managua's Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport for 80 minutes. In Mexico, the Panamanian leader said that the leaders of Honduras and Nicaragua "must be pushed a little bit so that they sit and talk to see if we can prevent them from meeting in a shootout." [Text] [PA102304 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2002 GMT 10 Nov 82]

FINNISH EDUCATION MINISTER--Finnish Second Education Minister Kaarina Suonio arrived in Managua yesterday afternoon for a 5-day visit. The visit responds to an invitation made at an UNESCO conference by Nicaraguan Culture Minister Father Ernesto Cardenal. Minister Suonio was accompanied by (Rita Sepala), her political secretary, and by (Taj Erlhum), Finnish parliamentarian. Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez, Father Cardenal and Deputy Culture Minister Francisco Lacayo met the Finnish visitors at Sandino Airport. The Finnish minister said she came to Nicaragua to learn about the process to democratize culture in the revolution and about the poetry shops, community teaching museums and dance schools. She will also make an on-the-scene review of the Miskitos' situation, especially the situation in the Tasba Pri settlement. [Text] [PA051612 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 82]

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BRIEFS

NEW BANK--Basseterre, St Kitts, Oct 26, CANA--St Kitts-Nevis junior finance minister, Richard Caines, is to open the first local branch of the Canadian-owned Bank of Nova Scotia (Scotiabank) this Thursday an official announcement said. Manager of the new bank is Grenadian Fitzroy Oneal, whose banking experience extends over the last five years when he was assistant manager of a Nova Scotia bank branch in the Bahamas. The establishment of Scotiabank here brings to four the number of commercial banks operating in St Kitts-Nevis. [Text] [FL261810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1705 GMT 26 Oct 82 FL]

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